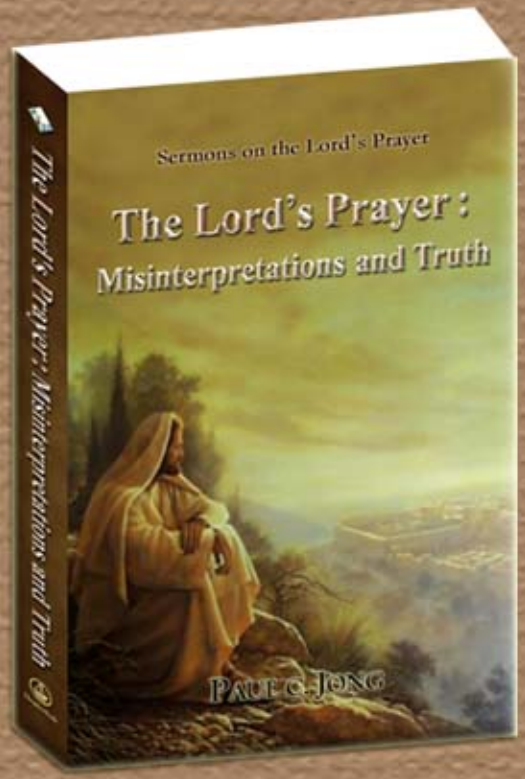
The New Life Mission

Sermons on the Lord's Prayer

# The Lord's Prayer:

## Misinterpretations and Truth

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## *About the Lord's Prayer s*

**The prayer that our Lord taught us shows us by what faith we the saints should live. We can divide the Lord's Prayer into five sections.**

**We should not try to interpret the Lord's Prayer according to the religious customs. That only leads us to great misinterpretations. We are unable to delight God through formal faith following religious doctrines.**

**Then, how should we understand the Lord's Prayer? The answer lies in the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit giving a proper understanding. And we are able to receive true spiritual enlightenment in it.**

**Now, all of us must realize the true faith as spoken through the Lord's Prayer in the Word of the Bible.**

# The Lord's Prayer:
## Misinterpretations and Truth

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PAUL C. JONG

**Hephzibah Publishing House**
**A Ministry of THE NEW LIFE MISSION**
**SEOUL, KOREA**

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***Sermons on the Lord's Prayer***
***The Lord's Prayer: Misinterpretations and Truth***

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# Preface

## We Must Live out Our Faith in All Our Prayer Life in Accordance with the Lord's Prayer

I hope that we understand and comprehend correctly the Lord's Prayer, which our Lord had taught His disciples. However, no matter how desperately we want it, human thoughts and wisdom are insufficient by themselves to comprehend the Word of God correctly. Yet, the more we believe in Jesus Christ, the more we realize the need to pray in accordance with our Lord's will.

Before He taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer, our Lord rebuked the Pharisees for their hypocritical prayers. Pharisees made prayers of hypocrisy at huge gathering places or in the synagogues. Their prayers were not what our Lord had desired, because they prayed in vanity according to their rituals in self-righteous expressions and tones of voice. After all, our Lord wanted us to comprehend the Lord's Prayer only after we have believed in the Lord-given gospel of the water and the Spirit. Put differently, God has told us throughout the entire Bible that we should first know what the gospel of the water and the Spirit is before realizing the meaning of the Lord's Prayer. Therefore, each individual among us must believe in his heart the gospel of the water and the Spirit and live the prayer life, which our Lord desires, before God.

## Obstacles to Prayers

What hinders us from praying boldly before God? It is sin. We can see that human sins become absolute obstacles in approaching God. Those who have sins are unable to boldly come before God because of their own sins. Hence, those who wish to come before God must acknowledge that they should rightly be condemned for their own sins and first of all be cleansed of all their sins by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Dear fellow Christians, you who wish to come before God must first be washed of all your sins by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

Do you know that you are doomed to be condemned to destruction because of your sins? If you still have sin in your heart, you must know in which state of mind you are currently. And only then can your problem of sins be resolved. You must take care of your sins by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. You must receive the remission of sin by truly knowing and believing that the gospel of the water and the Spirit has already washed away all your sins, that is, it has broken down the obstacle created by sins that barred your way to God. Only then are you eligible to come before the holy God. Now, you must receive the remission of all your sins in faith by listening with your ears and believing with your hearts the gospel of the water and the Spirit so that you may come before God with all the obstacles of sins broken.

Our Lord received His baptism from John the Baptist, washing away all our sins, and bled on the Cross, ransoming the price of all our sins, so that all of us may be delivered from all of our sins. We must know this Truth. And we must firmly believe in this Truth. The baptism our Lord received in this world as well as the blood

of the Cross have a true effect of washing away all our sins. We can meet with the holy God and reside with Him when we know and believe in the effectiveness of the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

All of us have to know what we really need in order to return before God. All of us need to blot out all our sins and experience the true God-given salvation by believing in the baptism Jesus received from John the Baptist to make us holy and the blood of the Cross and also that Jesus is God.

## The Gospel of the Water and the Spirit Is Absolutely Necessary for Everyone

What would happen if we did not believe in the baptism Jesus Christ received and the blood of the Cross He received as being the necessary component parts of our remission of sin? If so, the wall of sin inside you heart cannot be broken. Those who believe in Jesus but yet do not believe in the remission of sins revealed in the true gospel will lose heart because of their sins. The power of the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which the Lord has given to all of us, always has the great power of the remission of sin. Thus, it gives proper glory to God the Father. When we receive the remission of sin by believing in the true gospel, we receive the blessing to become the children of God.

We must know the true gospel. We must believe in the fact that our Lord was able to take all the sins of the world to the Cross because He first took upon Himself all the sins of the world by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist. We have no choice but to believe in our Lord's coming to this world, the baptism He received

from John the Baptist, His death on the Cross as well as His resurrection.

Those who do not have the true gospel are busy boasting of their good deeds. Those religious fanatics are prone to ignore even the righteousness of God. However, we must believe in Jesus as our absolute Savior, looking at the true gospel of the water and the Spirit, by which our Lord washed away all our sins. Our Lord delivered us from our eternal sins. That perfect Savior blotted out all our sins by the gospel of the water and the Spirit and made us the righteous having nothing to do with sins. Thus, we must absolutely believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which Jesus gave us. By doing thus, we must tear down walls that hinder us from praying to God.

We must first correctly know the meaning of the first line of the Lord's Prayer in order to come before God and give glory to the name of God the Father. And to do so, we must first know and believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Only thusly are we able to boldly come before God with our sinless hearts. When we give up our fleshly thoughts, we meet with the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which is God's righteousness that was completed by Jesus' taking upon Himself our sins through His baptism and by His ending judgment through the bloodshed on the Cross. Then we are able to receive the remission of our sins by believing in it. Therefore, whoever has sin in his heart at this moment must believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit without fail. We are able to give the proper glory to the name of God the Father by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

The first prayer title that our Lord gave us in the Lord's Prayer is to give glory to the holy name of God the Father by becoming God's own

children through receiving the remission of sins. This is our Lord's first instruction. My dear fellow believers, now you have to come before God with your faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and receive the remission of sin. Jesus Christ washed all the sins of all people once and for all by the baptism He received from John the Baptist and the blood of the Cross. Thus, He has delivered us from all our sin and the Law of death. Believers are now washed from their sins and delivered from their sins because Jesus took upon Himself all the sins of the world by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist and the shedding His blood on the Cross. We must absolutely believe in the perfect gospel, which is the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

## We Must Always Believe in the Lord's Love toward Us

In our lives, we have to constantly look at how the Lord has blotted out all of our sins through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. All of us must have the faith to look at the righteousness of our Lord at all times. Otherwise, we are buried to death in our own weaknesses. However, to those who constantly look at how our Lord has blotted out their sins by His baptism and His bloodshed on the Cross, the gospel of the water and the Spirit gives great strength for them to boldly come before God. Hence, we must realize that we will drown in our own weaknesses if we only look at ourselves. We must believe and constantly look at the baptism and the bloodshed our Lord received for us. Only then will we receive the power to walk with God. To those who believe in this gospel Word, the power of

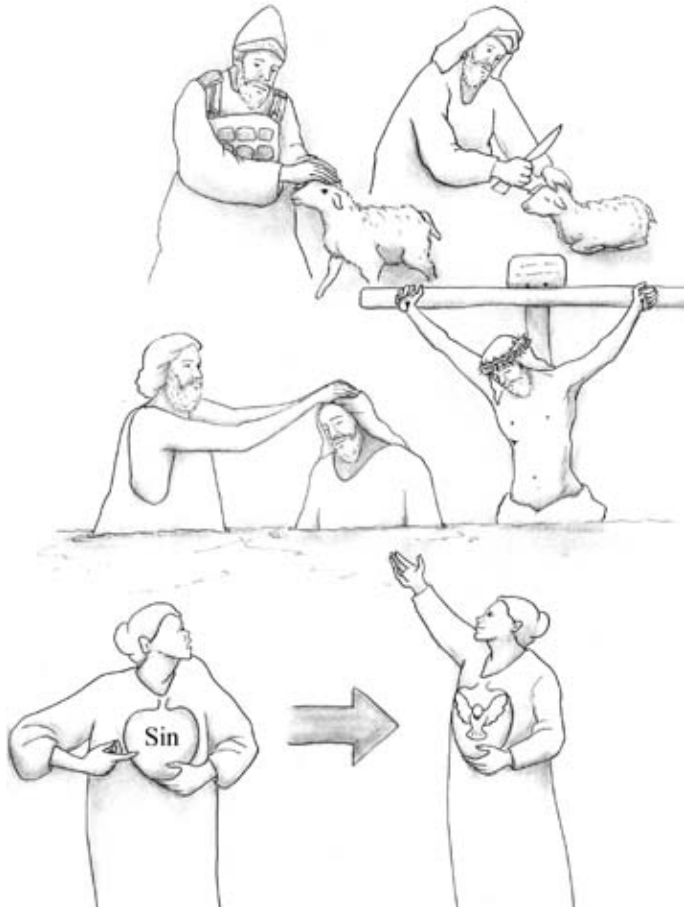
belief that they have received the remission of sin will be with them till the end of this world. God speaks to whomever that tries to come before God: "You should come before Me knowing and believing that Jesus Christ blotted out all your sins by the baptism He received from John the Baptist and the bloodshed on the Cross." God desires that kind of faith.

We can gain great peace in our hearts by believing in the blessing of the remission of sin given to us through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Those who make prayers that give glory to God are able to do thus because they have faith in the baptism Jesus Christ received and the blood of the Cross.

Only people of true faith are able to communicate true prayers. Thus, we must listen with our ears, see with our eyes, and believe in our hearts the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which is the righteousness of our Lord. We are able to become sinless people by looking at and believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which is the righteousness of God. Believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit are able to pray as the Lord has taught us in the Lord's Prayer. Before we are eager to pray the Lord's Prayer, we must first receive the remission of sin by faith.

Then, what is the gospel of the water and the Spirit that the Bible is speaking about? I will explain about the Lord's Prayer in detail after I have explained about the gospel of the water and the Spirit. ✉

**Paul C. Jong**




# What Is the Gospel of The Water and the Spirit Written in the Bible?

**< Matthew 3:13-17 >**

**"Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?' But Jesus answered and said to him, 'Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice**

**came from heaven, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'"**

Matthew chapter 3 verses 13 to 17 describe how Jesus Christ took all the sins of sinners by coming into this world. In other places, we can find passages that foreshadow this event in the Old Testament. In the passage in Matthew chapter 3, the Bible presents the Truth that Jesus took upon Himself the sins of this world once and for all by receiving the baptism from John the Baptist.

After coming into this world, did Jesus receive His baptism from John the Baptist to show His humility? It is utterly false that Jesus received baptism from John the Baptist to display His humility. The baptism Jesus received from John the Baptist was a process by which He took the sins of the world upon Himself once and for all. Jesus took our sins upon Himself as well as all the sins of the rest of the world by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist. Jesus received His baptism in order to take upon Himself the sins of you and me as well as the sins of all the people in the world.

We must know correctly that Jesus received His baptism from John the Baptist in order to take upon Himself all of our sins. That is a very crucial Word of Truth that enables us to know and understand the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Jesus baptism, which was to take upon Himself all the sins of every sinner in this world once and for all, was not in vain.

In the past, the righteous and the Apostles believed and preached Jesus' baptism and the shedding of His blood on the Cross constituting the remission of sin. They regarded these two components as the Truth. However, their successors thought that believing in Jesus' Cross

and believing in Jesus' baptism were unrelated. But soon, all Christians of the world will realize that Jesus' baptism and His Cross constitute one and the same Truth.

Today's Christians try to believe well in Jesus' blood of the Cross. And they share it well. Yet, they do not realize the importance of Jesus' baptism. They wrongfully think that it is right to believe in the blood of the Cross thereby not knowing the true meaning of the remission of sin through Jesus' baptism. They thought that not knowing about the baptism of Jesus was not a problem as long as they believed in Jesus' blood. So they ignored the Truth of the baptism and did not believe in it. They acted thusly because they did not know that Jesus baptism and the Cross constituted one and the same Truth.

Satan is deceiving people to believe in the Bible blindly to prevent them from receiving the remission of their sins. Because sinners bound in their own personal sins believed that they would be delivered just by believing in Jesus' blood at the Cross, they ignore Jesus' baptism not recognizing its importance. Satan the Devil interferes with our faith. Satan knows very well that it is useless to believe in Jesus unless that person also believes in the baptism of Jesus. Thus, Satan the Devil tries to hide Jesus' baptism in order to hide the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which blots out the sins of the world, from people's sight.

## The First Evidence That Jesus Took Sins of All Sinners All at Once

The first evidence was the transference of all the sins of the world onto Jesus at once, when John the Baptist baptized Jesus that accomplished God's righteousness. When Jesus

Christ received baptism at the hands of John the Baptist, He took all of our sins onto Himself (Matthew 3:15). *"But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him" (Matthew 3:15-16).* The work Jesus accomplished after coming to this world was receiving the baptism from John the Baptist to take upon Himself all mankind's sins.

Through the words Jesus spoke to John the Baptist right before He received the baptism, we can find the evidence that Jesus was going to take upon Himself all the sins of the world. That is, Jesus said *"for thus"* in Matthew chapter 3 verse 15 so that He could fulfill the transference of the sins of the world onto Himself. *"For thus"* in Greek is *'οϋτως γάρ (hoo'-tos gar).'* This word entails the meaning of progression, and its meanings are 'just in this way,' 'most fitting,' or 'there is no other way besides this. And "all righteousness" here is *πάσαν δικαιοσύνην (pasan dikaiosunen)* in Greek. This word means the fairest state that has no defect at all.

We must know how all of God's righteousness was fulfilled. Only when Jesus received His baptism from John the Baptist "for thus," He could take all the sins of this world onto Himself. Thus, only after Jesus received the baptism could He die on the Cross shedding His blood. Because all of God's righteousness would be fulfilled only then, Jesus received the baptism. All of God's 'righteousness' was fulfilled through the transference of all the sins of the world onto Jesus by His baptism that He received. The baptism was God's justness. And Jesus delivered the entire humanity from judgment by

completely washing away their sins through the bloodshed on the Cross. This is God's fairness. God's righteousness entails God's just salvation.

Jesus came to this world and received His baptism from John the Baptist. To those who believe in this, there can be no sin. There was no other means by which God's just salvation could be accomplished other than for Jesus to die on the Cross after coming into this world to receive the baptism from John the Baptist. This was the only way to blot out the sins of this world. Jesus justly blotted out the sins in our hearts as well as the sins of this world by His baptism and blood. Like this, Jesus completely blotted out the sins of all humanity through His crucifixion on the Cross as well as the baptism He received from John the Baptist, by which Jesus took upon Himself the sins of this world once and for all. Thus, God fulfilled all His righteousness. This has become God's rightness. This is the love of God. The reason and purpose for which Jesus received the baptism have entailed our salvation.

The purpose for which Jesus received the baptism at the Jordan River was to take upon Himself the sins of this world. Do you believe this? Then, what about our personal sins? Do your personal sins still remain, although you say that you believe in Jesus? Are you saying that there is still sin in this world, although Jesus received the baptism for all the sins of every sinner? If you say that you believe in Him, how could there be any personal sin? Those who believe in Jesus' baptism wholly will say that they have no sins. And those who do not believe will not be able to say that there are no sins in their hearts. We must believe that even our personal sins were taken care of when Jesus received His baptism.

What I am saying is that personal sins have nothing to do with believing in Jesus any more.

There can be no remaining sins in your hearts if you believe in Jesus knowing the correct meaning of the baptism He received. We have complete salvation if we believe in our hearts that Jesus accomplished the righteous work of taking our sins through His just baptism. Let's attain our salvation for all our personal sins by believing in this Truth.

## The Meaning of the Baptism That Jesus Received

The word 'baptism,' *'βάφτισμα'* in Greek, means "being immersed." The spiritual meaning of this word is to wash, to bury, or to transfer. The baptism Jesus Christ received had the power to overtake the worldly sins of sinners and therefore to wash those sins away. That Jesus dipped His body into Jordan River and received His baptism by bending His head toward John the Baptist was analogous to the laying on of the hands onto the head of the sacrificial animal at the altar in the Old Testament times. Hence, we baptize by laying our hands on the heads of those who are to be baptized.

On verse 16 of today's Scripture passage, it says, *"When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water"* Jesus dipping Himself in the water and emerging out of the water to receive the baptism signify death and resurrection respectively. Jesus' immersion into the water after receiving the baptism signifies His death. The laying on of John the Baptist's hands to baptize Jesus signifies the laying on of the hands, by which sins are transferred. Jesus' emergence out of the water signifies His resurrection. Thus, in the account of the baptism Jesus received from John the Baptist are included

the transference of all our sins onto Jesus, His death, and His resurrection.

Jesus' baptism is the eternal fulfillment of the sacrifice in the Old Testament, by which the sins of Israelites were transferred onto the sacrificial goat through the laying on of the hands. Jesus wholly fulfilled God's righteousness by taking sin off the sinners through His baptism, by dying in the place of sinners, and by being resurrected from the dead to revive the righteous. The baptism we have received is the sure evidence that we have been delivered even from all our personal sins. We also receive it as a sign of our faith in the baptism Jesus received as well as His death on the Cross and His resurrection.

In Matthew chapter 3 verse 15, Jesus tells John the Baptist, "You should baptize me. Permit it to be so now. It is right for us to fulfill all righteousness in this manner." Here, the reason Jesus was baptized was to fulfill all of God's righteousness. The words 'all righteousness' indicate God's righteousness. The meaning of becoming righteous by believing in Jesus in the Bible is being born again by believing that Jesus delivered us when He took upon Himself all our sins through His baptism. Matthew chapter 3, verse 15 tells us that the righteousness of God was accomplished when Jesus received the baptism and John the Baptist gave the baptism so that all the sins of sinners in this world might be blotted out. This was the reason Jesus received the baptism from John the Baptist and the reason He was able to receive the crucifixion. Jesus received the baptism from John the Baptist because He desired to make all sinners in this world sinless through His baptism.

Jesus spoke imperatively to John the Baptist before He received the baptism. *"Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15).* All

righteousness of God that Jesus fulfilled was making all sinners sinless. The result of it was His death on the Cross and His resurrection. Thus, the first thing Jesus did to turn sinners into the righteous was the receiving of His baptism, and God the Father provided the supporting evidence for this Himself by saying, *"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17)*.

The word 'righteousness' in the Bible is in Chinese character "義", meaning rightness. It is interesting that this Chinese character is composed of two characters, that is, 羊(lamb) and 我(myself). Isn't it right we can be righteous only when we come before God lifting up the Lamb Jesus Christ? Yes, those who offer the sacrifice of Abel can be approved as the righteous according to God's law of salvation. That all right works were completed indicates that Jesus came to this world and blotted out all the sins of every person. Jesus completed the most right work by receiving His baptism, by shedding His blood, by dying and being resurrected from the dead. All those things together fulfilled God's righteousness. God's righteousness was to deliver all sinners from their sins. Thus, Jesus received His baptism and shed His blood for sinners, completing the entire work of salvation.

The entire work of salvation that all the sinners wished for was fulfilled by the baptism Jesus received, His death, and the resurrection. Jesus came to this world and received the baptism from John the Baptist to blot out all the sins of every sinner. It was right for Jesus to receive the baptism and fulfill all righteousness. Because Jesus received the baptism, all of their sins were taken from them and transferred onto Jesus Christ's own body.

"It is right for us to fulfill all righteousness by doing thus. By receiving the baptism from John the Baptist, all the sins of every sinner were transferred onto Me. I have completely delivered all of you, who commit personal sins everyday, by taking all the sins of every sinner in this world through the laying on of hands by John the Baptist. For this, I have come. It was right for me to receive the baptism from John the Baptist. This was My righteous work of salvation for you. Therefore, you should believe in My righteousness." The way by which Jesus delivered us from the sins of the world was the Truth of the baptism, the bloodshed on the Cross, and the resurrection. He gave us this Truth and gave the salvation, the eternal life, and the blessing to become God's own children to those who believe in this Truth. Those who receive their salvation by believing this have gained their salvation in the only proper way.

Dear fellow believers, is there anyone discontent with the grace of salvation that Jesus came to blot out all the sins of every sinner? I am sure that there are none. No one can argue with the fact that Jesus came to blot out all the sins of every sinner. Also, no one can find falsely the fact that Jesus delivered us from our sins by taking the sins of the world through the baptism He received for the salvation of every sinner, by dying on the Cross crucified, and by being resurrected from the dead. Is there anyone who dissents to these facts? If there are, they are against God.

Whether a sinner is delivered or not depends on whether that person believes in Jesus' baptism and the blood on the Cross. Our salvations are determined by our faith. Believers become saints, and non-believers remain sinners by their personal sins. Therefore, each one's destination, whether it will be Heaven or hell, is determined

solely by his own faith. There is no other way for a sinner to receive his salvation except for the faith in Jesus' gospel of His baptism and blood.

However, there are competing claims by sinners on how Jesus Christ blotted out the sins of sinners. Some say that only the blood of Jesus is the way to salvation. Others say that they will receive salvation for just believing in Him at any rate. Yet, Jesus said that He received the baptism in order to blot out the sins of sinners and deliver us. Hence, this was the most appropriate method to blot out all the sins of every sinner by which God's righteousness is fulfilled.

Jesus received His baptism from John the Baptist, died crucified on the Cross, and was resurrected from the dead with the purpose of delivering sinners from all their sins, including even their personal sins. In order to unilaterally blot out the sins of sinners, Jesus received His baptism from John the Baptist to become their Savior. He welcomed the punishment of crucifixion, reserved for the most heinous criminal. And He appeared to His disciples, after He was resurrected from the dead. Thus, sinners become the righteous by believing in the baptism of Jesus. They also become God's own children, free from God's judgment, by believing in the blood Jesus shed on the Cross. Jesus witnessed Himself that it is fitting to fulfill all righteousness by doing thus. For a sinner to receive the remission of sins, it is most appropriate to believe in Jesus Christ's baptism, His death on the Cross, and the resurrection.

Some people even question the validity of Jesus' own action, asking why Jesus received the baptism from John the Baptist in the first place. Do you have anything against the fact that God created the universe and everything in it? You wouldn't believe how many sinners dissent on the fact that God created the heavens and the

earth. They insist on the theory of evolution that the universe came into existence naturally and not by divine intervention. Does the flower of a pumpkin become a rose over time? If the universe came into existence naturally as the evolutionists insist, the flower of a pumpkin may indeed become a rose someday. However, a pumpkin flower was created as a pumpkin flower when God said to it be thus. Hence, the flower of a pumpkin can never become a rose even as times goes by. A species of organism may adapt to its surrounding environment and mutate into a new form, but never does a species become an entirely different species from what God created it to be.

## We Must Deny Our Own Thoughts and Believe in Our Lord's Thoughts and Plans

For any of us to receive the remission of sin, we need to go through self-denial. The Lord said that if anyone wants to follow Him, he should deny himself and bear his own cross. And we must believe in the gospel of the baptism Jesus received and His bloodshed on the Cross as the true salvation.

Our Lord blotted out all the sins of every sinner once and for all by receiving His baptism, shedding His blood, and being resurrected from the dead. If God tells us this, all we need to do is to believe in this. Instead of questioning whether there could be another way of receiving the remission of sin, we should obediently accept what our Lord has told us on its face value. Dear

fellow believers, how many times shall the cock row? It crows however many times it wants to. Even God the Father allowed Jesus to receive His baptism and shed His blood crucified on the Cross in order to deliver sinners from their sins. Then, who could argue why Jesus took the sins through the baptism and not some other means? Whoever that denies this Truth or that rejects either one of Jesus' missions of His baptism and the Cross cannot become a child of God. Instead, he remains a sinner. That person's sin is disbelief and rejection of God's love and His righteousness. Thus, those who have their personal sins remaining in their hearts will receive the judgment, which is the wage of their sins.

What will happen to a sinner if he refuses to believe in God's gospel? Whose fault is it if a person receives judgment for rejecting Jesus' baptism and the blood through which all the sins of every sinner were blotted out, just because he did not like it? Is it not the disbeliever's fault? Jesus would not have done anything wrong. That is because Jesus already took all of our sins onto Himself by receiving the baptism from John the Baptist. Are you going to believe in God's righteousness? Or will you keep insisting that it is right for one to have one's personal sins even after believing in Jesus? Do you intend to reject the gospel of the water and the Spirit? I hope that you are delivered from your sins by accepting this Truth into your heart and become God's righteous tool and His workers.

A sinner becomes the righteous by believing in the Truth, that is, by believing in the Jesus given gospel of the baptism and the blood. This is God's appointed way to deliver all sinners from all of their sins. Are you going to believe in the love of God now? As a righteous person who has received the remission of sin prior to you, I

urge you to believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and become the righteous. Why would you be so stubborn as to choose hell over Heaven? Believe and go to Heaven.

Believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit! Then, God's salvation will descend upon you and you will be fulfilled in your heart as you believe. Seek the gospel of the water and the Spirit. You will at once meet the Truth of the water and the Spirit. Knock on the gates of Heaven. The gates of Heaven will open to you, as you discover God's hidden righteousness in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. If you believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit by which Jesus delivered sinners, you will receive the remission of sin as well as the gift of the Holy Spirit. You will become the righteous by faith. You will enter the Kingdom of Heaven by faith. You will become God's own children by faith. Being acknowledged by God for your faith depends solely on the determination of your heart.

I will tell you once more the meaning of baptism, for you may still doubt the authenticity of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The baptism of Jesus implies that all the sins of the world were transferred through it. As it was done through the laying on of the hands in the Old Testament, John the Baptist had to lay his hands on Jesus' head when he was baptizing Him. However, unlike the daily sacrifice in the Old Testament whereby a full day of sin was transferred on to the sacrificial goat by the priest, eternal sins were once and for all transferred on to Jesus when He was baptized. Our Lord most appropriately blotted out the sins of sinners through the baptism received from John the Baptist.

In the Old Testament times, the priest made offerings on a daily basis. Also, sin would not be

terminated no matter how many times the High Priests made the annual offerings of the Day of Atonement. Consequently, when the High Priest died, his son would take the responsibility as the next High Priest and so on. Yet, Jesus as the High Priest of Heaven gave eternal life to believers by offering not an animal but His own spotless body to be baptized for the transference of the sins of the world, to be crucified on the Cross, and to die and be resurrected from the dead. Our Lord not by the blood of a goat but by His own body cleansed all believers from their sins once and for all by receiving His baptism and shedding His blood. That salvation is for eternity.

If we, who commit personal sins daily, were to receive the remission of sin on a daily basis, Jesus would still have to be alive in the flesh to the present days. However, Jesus submitted His body to John the Baptist for the deliverance of the sinners from their sins. All the sins of this world were transferred onto Jesus through the baptism and made believers whole once and for all by shedding His blood on the Cross. Our Lord delivered us sinners from our sins through the gospel of the baptism and the blood of the Cross.

## The Gospel That John the Baptist Witnessed Was the Gospel of the Water and the Spirit

It was John the Baptist who witnessed that Jesus had taken all the sins of the world by receiving His baptism. John the Baptist, who personally gave baptism to Jesus, transferred the sins of this world onto Jesus. Hence, Jesus bore the sins of this world. Witnessing to this Truth, in John chapter 1 verse 29, he said, *"Behold! The*

*Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"* Before He received the baptism from John the Baptist, Jesus was not bearing the sins of this world on Himself. The sins of this world were passed on to Jesus when He received the baptism from John the Baptist. Thus, Jesus became the proper Lamb of God. John the Baptist was able to witness about Jesus because He was baptized by him. John the Baptist was able to witness about Jesus saying, *"Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*

In John chapter 1 verse 29, it says, *"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'"* Dear fellow believers, Jesus was witnessed to as the Lamb of God. This passage tells us that Jesus was the sacrifice for the sins of sinners throughout the Old and the New Testament. Jesus was the sacrificial offering in place of the sinners because He took all the sins of this world upon Himself once for all by receiving the baptism. Because John the Baptist baptized Jesus, in this manner all the sins of the world were transferred onto Him, Jesus' disciple John was also able to witness that Jesus was the Lamb of God taking away the sin of the world.

## The Gospel That the Twelve Disciples Witnessed

This is the witness of the Apostles in Acts chapter 1 verses 21 to 22. Peter the Apostle said, *"Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection"* They had to select a new

apostle instead of Judas Iscariot, who was going to witness to the fact that Jesus Christ became the Savior to all sinners.

There were requirements for a disciple to be selected as one of the Apostles. The new apostle had to be a righteous person who accompanied Jesus and knew the reason why Jesus received the water baptism from John the Baptist and the reason why Jesus died crucified on the Cross. The new Apostle had to be someone who believed in the remission of sin correctly that Jesus took away the sins of sinners through His baptism and blotted them out through His bloodshed on the Cross.

The Apostles spread definitely the Truth of Jesus' baptism and the Cross. All of the Apostles shared the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which originated from the baptism John the Baptist administered. That is, Jesus received the baptism from John the Baptist to become the Savior of all sinners. Jesus' disciples knew this and definitely witnessed to it. The Apostles believed that it was right to deliver the sinners of this world from their sins by sharing Jesus' baptism, death, and resurrection.

## The Gospel That the Apostle Paul Witnessed

Let's take a look at the Scripture passage in Romans chapter 6 verses 3 to 5. *"Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His*

*death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection."*

To say that *"as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death"* is a confession of faith that it was through Jesus' baptism that He took away all the sins of every sinner. When we believe in Jesus, we can be perfectly united with Christ only when we believe in the Truth that is hidden in His baptism.

In the Pauline Epistles, we can find that he believed Jesus' baptism and His blood as well. Galatians, as well as Romans, talk about Jesus' baptism along with the blood. Therefore, the Truth is that Jesus took away all the sins of every sinner with His baptism and His death on the Cross.

How can we be united as one with Jesus in our faith? We are able to be united by our faith in Jesus' baptism of the water and the Cross. A sinner becomes righteous through the faith that unites him or her with Christ. Our becoming God's righteous worker is also possible through our faith that unites us to Christ in His baptism and death.

The faith that enables us to enter the Kingdom of Heaven is one that believes Jesus took the sins of sinners through His baptism and received judgment for those sins on the Cross. Only if we believe this can we be united with Jesus. Only those who are united with Jesus can enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Thus, those who believe in the salvation works of Jesus through the baptism and the blood enter the Kingdom of Heaven united with Christ by faith.

The sins we commit from our birth to death in this world are included in the sins of the world. But, our Savior has taken all the sins of the world through His baptism. Although we should rightfully die by God's Law that says, "The wages of sin is death," we are delivered from the

fatal death by believing that Jesus took upon Himself our sins through His baptism and received the judgment for our sins on the Cross in our place. This Truth is the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Jesus surrendered His own life and received the baptism and shed the blood, which is life, in our place, when we were the ones who should have perished for our sins. Jesus sacrificed His own body to take away all of our sins and ransomed the price for our sins by shedding His own blood.

Jesus having been resurrected from the dead and sits at the right hand of God the Father in order to revive all of those who believe in this Truth both in the flesh and the spirit. A sinner becomes united with Jesus by believing with his heart in Jesus' baptism of the water, the blood of the Cross, and His bearing upon Himself the sins of this world.

That is what it means to enter the Kingdom of Heaven by believing in Jesus. If we realize God's righteousness and believe in Jesus, we can enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Because Jesus blotted out all the sins of every sinner and went to the Kingdom of Heaven before us, believers that were sinners once and for all can become the people of God and enter the Kingdom of God by His merit.

Dear fellow believers, let's read Galatians chapter 2 verse 20 together. *"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."*

If we believe in His baptism being united with Christ, we are crucified on the Cross alongside Jesus because we have rightly believed that our sins were transferred onto Jesus. Thus, those who are united with Christ have also been resurrected

with Him. The Apostle Paul said that he was crucified with Jesus. Likewise, those who are united with Jesus Christ's baptism have been resurrected in their faith.

Our souls have been brought back to life because we have participated in Jesus' baptism, His death on the Cross, and His resurrection by faith. Those souls that do not believe in the righteousness of Jesus Christ are already dead. Yet, even these souls will be revived through the faith if they come to unite with our Lord' baptism.

What does the soul of a righteous need to sustain itself? He receives the eternal remission of sin and is revived by being reunited with Christ in his faith in the baptism the Son of God received, the Cross, and His resurrection. Because Jesus received the baptism that took away all the sins of every sinner in order to deliver them from their sins, we become united with Christ by believing in that Jesus.

## How We Were Transformed from Sinners into the Righteous

People, who commit personal sins, have gained new lives as the born-again righteous by believing in Jesus the Son of God's baptism and blood. Is there anything more superior that the righteous have especially? There is nothing special to the righteous physically. They have become the righteous just by believing in Jesus' baptism and blood. Was it by our own merit that we were delivered from our sins? It was not by our own merit that we, who commit personal sins everyday, have become without sin. It was by the merit of the baptism Jesus received and the Cross.

In the midst of our souls resides our living Lord. That is because we have faith in the Word on the baptism Jesus received, His death, and His resurrection in our heart. Do you completely believe in the salvation Jesus accomplished by blotting out our sins? If we are to wholly believe in Jesus and follow Him, both sinners and the righteous must deny themselves and receive the remission of sin. Only then can we follow Jesus.

Whoever that wishes to follow the Lord must deny his own personal selfishness. A sinner has to deny his own thought to be delivered from all his sins. But if he stubbornly follows his own thought like Commander Naaman did, he shall go to hell. There are numerous sinners that almost went to hell because they were unable to receive the remission of their sins by not denying their own thoughts.

Commander Naaman went to the servant of God to be cured of his leprosy. In that incident, Elisha the servant of God told him to go and wash in the Jordan River seven times. After hearing this, Commander Naaman refused to follow the instruction saying, *"Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" (2 Kings 5:12)* Still, after hearing the words of admonishment, he denied his own thoughts and went to the Jordan River and washed himself seven times. Exactly at the seventh time as he washed, he was cured completely. If he had not denied his own thoughts, his leprosy would not have been cured. Likewise, if we do not deny our own thoughts and try to live out our faith in our own ways, we will not receive the remission of sin. Even for us, if we do not deny our own thoughts and do not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, our sins are not blotted out. Dear fellow believers, we have to deny our own

thoughts no matter how right they may seem. That is the way to life.

Dear fellow believers, what right do we have to be furious when we were mere sinners doomed to hell? Jesus blotted out all our sins by taking our sins through His baptism of the water and by receiving the judgment for all of our sins through the blood of the Cross. Then, all we need to do is gratefully believe it in our hearts and accept it. Why did God allow this account of healing from his leprosy to be recorded in the Bible? It was written so that people in need of deliverance from their sins in succeeding generations would deny their own thoughts and accept the works of God so that they may be delivered from their sins.

Believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit! Only then can we become able to pray properly as taught in the Lord's Prayer. ✉

# “Our Father in Heaven Hallowed Be Your Name”

**< Matthew 6:9 >**
**“In this manner, therefore, pray:**
**Our Father in heaven,**
**Hallowed be Your name.”**

How are you today? Did you enjoy your dinner this evening? I have eaten pretty well myself this evening. Not only was the meal great, as I really enjoyed the company of coworkers and saints. I am also very grateful that we can have fellowship together and share His grace in this great place in a good environment.

I have noticed a not too important but nonetheless interesting fact here today. You have to keep in mind that you can be sentenced to three years of imprisonment for yapping in the restroom. I came across evangelist Jaeyoung Lee in the restroom, and happened to talk with him this afternoon. Then, someone else in the restroom told us that there is a law stipulating three years of imprisonment for people who talk too loudly in the restroom. After that, we were quiet. Of course, he was kidding us.

Not only that but today we shared our innermost thoughts with each other as we haven’t been able to meet for a while. You wouldn’t know what sweet memories we have reminisced about together. We laughed quite a bit. No matter what topic our conversation may address, we are quite comfortable talking with our coworkers of one faith and one heart. Although it sometimes may appear that we are slandering against each other, there is no harm because all of us have received the remission of sin and we hold no bad

intentions. When we look into one another, we can find the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit in each one’s heart. And it is good because God is working inside of us as well. We also are happy to find some weaknesses in each one’s flesh that are the same as ours. Even our appearances in the flesh make us joyful. It is good since the old and the new things appear side by side to every born-again saint simultaneously. It is impossible to comprehend how good it is to share fellowship with each other.

This afternoon, I walked around the small group fellowship meetings. I have seen a very amusing scene there too. We have two container-trailer rooms, and a few groups were holding their meetings there. There are another three rooms beside the container rooms. Five small groups were all singing different praise songs then, and I could hear them from the outside as if they were all preparing for a choir competition. They were each trying to sing louder than the other groups. And the out of synch chaotic noise had a sense of an odd harmony in it. Something probably would have happened, if this had happened at a worldly church. Someone would have called attention to this mess. Each group was not bothered by the other groups nor bothered them. And in these individual songs, I oddly felt a harmony. I believe that this was the working of God.

Dear fellow believers, did you get enough rest during this discipleship training camp? I hope you did. There are many people who have contributed in various places such as the kitchen. I hope that your bodies and souls get plenty of rest while we work and have fellowship together. We might not have too much time to spare, but I hope that you enjoy rest and have peace in your heart even if it is for a split second. We, too, should also just share some jokes with each

other. For example, that there is a sentence for three years of imprisonment for talking in the restroom. We should have fellowship with each other that we haven’t had much chance to have, both spiritually and otherwise.

We said many more things other than this three-year sentence talk in the restroom. I don’t have sufficient time to tell you about all of the conversation that happened there. What I have realized was that I have noticeably changed from who I was in the past. What is clear now is that regardless of our past, we have become a new creation and are sharing the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

We haven’t been able to work on our email ministry for the past two days. Still, there were thousands of visitors to our website. Although we didn’t send out our emails to invite people, they are visiting our web site after hearing about it through stickers, posters, and memo cards we have spread throughout the world. I think there have been that many visitors because of the publicity system we have built up for the past few years. While we are having our meeting here and now, God is ceaselessly working to spread the gospel throughout the world. I have gained confidence that we are indeed doing the works of God.

I believe that God will work even more wonders in the second half of this year until we meet again at our winter discipleship training camp. We believe that God will work even more than up until now through none other than ourselves. I believe that the gospel will be spread throughout the world in the next few years and that God will fulfill all His will. I believe that we will gain strength in our hearts once we have shared the gospel of the water and the Spirit with the entire world. On that day, we will be able to tell more jokes, enjoy more delicious food, and

laugh even harder than we have here.

## How Can We Give Glory to the Father’s Name?

Today, I would like to share with you the Lord’s Prayer as the Lord taught us in Matthew chapter 6. Mathew 6:9 says, *“Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.”* What do we need to do in order to give glory to the name of God? Do you think we should live a life that leads us to sanctification? First of all, I tell you that it is not so. Of course, people would return glory to God when they see our virtuous deeds. But what is more important for us is to know that we have to believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, to defend such a faith, and to spread this gospel in order to return glory to God the Father. Our Lord tells us to live in faith as we pray and believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

We must not forget that the Lord’s Prayer was given to those who have received the remission of sin. Not sinners but only the children of God can call God as *“our Father in Heaven.”* Thus, if anyone wants to call God Father and pray to Him, he must first become a child of God by washing his sins away.

God is our Creator. Also, He is our Savior, who delivers us. God the Father sent us Jesus Christ and has adopted believers in the gospel as His own children by washing away all their sins through the water and the Spirit. Hence, God is Father to those who believe in the Savior that washed away all of their sins through the water and the Spirit.

## *“Hallowed Be Your Name”*

Then, what is the way to glorify the name of God the Father? How can we glorify the name of God? That is only possible by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Only those who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit have the right to call God their Father.

In short, the way to give glory to the name of God is as follows: If we keep our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and continuously share it with others, the name of God the Father is glorified. However, as we live in this world serving the gospel and concentrating ourselves on a particular activity for His mission, sometimes our insufficiencies are revealed. Thus, sometimes we fail to give glory to the name of God because we fall into our own weaknesses. Although we have become holy by receiving the remission of sin through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, sometimes we fall into our own weaknesses because we are consumed with our flesh or works. Sometimes we fail to live a life that gives glory to the name of God the Father because of our own weaknesses, although we have no sin in us. That’s why God gave us the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

Although we have received the remission of sin and been sanctified, we commit sins out of our own weaknesses. In each time that happens, we are reminded that Jesus has washed away all our sins, weaknesses, flaws, and shortcomings through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Hence, we give thanks to God the Father with our faith in the baptism of Jesus, which has the power to blot out even our personal sins. Our Lord has given us the faith in the remission of sin through the Word of the Old and New Testament: In the Old Testament, the laver of the

Tabernacle shows us how God has washed away all our sins. In the New Testament, Jesus Christ told Peter, *"What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this,"* as He washed his feet (John 13:7). Our Lord had washed away our sins through His baptism of the remission of sin. As we try to go through our lives in this world despite of our weak flesh, our Lord has given us true faith in the water and the blood to wash away all our sins anytime our weaknesses hinder us.

## The Truth of the Laver Revealed in the Bible

There are mentions of the laver in the Old Testament, specifically at Exodus chapter 30 verses 17 to 21. *"Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 'You shall also make a laver of bronze, with its base also of bronze, for washing. You shall put it between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar. And you shall put water in it, for Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in water from it. When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to the LORD, they shall wash with water, lest they die. So they shall wash their hands and their feet, lest they die. And it shall be a statute forever to them--to him and his descendants throughout their generations'" (Exodus 30:17-21).* God spoke thus to Moses and to the priests.

When a priest entered the Tabernacle, he used to face the altar of the burnt offering first. That was the place where the Israelites offered their sacrifices by laying their hands on the heads of the sacrifices, cutting their throats to draw the blood, putting it on the horns of the altar, and

burning their flesh and fat to the Lord God. On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest laid his hands on one of the two sacrificial goats brought before him for the Israelites to transfer their sins onto it at this altar.

What you find after passing by the altar inside the Tabernacle is the laver of bronze. Once they pass the laver, they enter the Holy Place, which is the House of God where they placed the Ark. If anyone dares to enter the Holy Place, he must first completely wash away all of his uncleanness at the laver. There was no exception, even for the High Priest. This was the Truth of the remission of sin spoken to the righteous who had received the remission of sin.

Although we have received the remission of sin, we still commit personal sins everyday. How can we then keep our hearts clean even though we have received the remission of sin? What I am asking is how we could keep our hearts without sin, after we have received the remission of sin through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The answer to this question lies with the Truth of the remission of sin that takes place at the laver. The secret to keeping our holiness after we have received the remission of sin can be found in the laver.

Our Lord said whoever is clean need only to wash their feet. *“Jesus said to him, ‘He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you’” (John 13:10).* Just like what our Lord said, we wash away our personal sins through our faith in the laver and keep our perfect faith. And the Truth of the laver is finally revealed in the New Testament times, when our Lord comes to this world to receive His baptism from John the Baptist. In other words, we keep our perfect faith by believing and meditating on the baptism Jesus received, through which all our sins were

washed away in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We become holy and remain thus before God by meditating and believing in Jesus’ baptism. The water indeed implies the baptism of Jesus, which is the sign of our salvation, as it is written, *“There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21).*

Our Lord took away all our sins by receiving His baptism. And He blotted out all our sins by dying on the Cross. Our Lord took all the sins of the world onto the Cross, where He died. He delivered us by being resurrected from the dead. After we have received the remission of sin through our Lord’s deeds, we must remember the gospel of the water and the Spirit repetitively on a daily basis. We have to look at the baptism our Lord received daily, even after we have received the remission of sin. We have to look at it whenever we are tainted in this world. All of our unclean hearts are washed anew whenever we believe and meditate on the baptism Jesus received. Only then can we give glory to the name of God the Father in front of Him by our faith in His baptism. We are not able to give glory to the name of our Father, if we have uneasy conscience because of our sin, although we have already received the remission of sin. Thus, our Lord has taught us to pray to give glory to the name of God the Father so that we can become holy by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

What would have happened to the priests of the Old Testament times, if they didn’t have the laver to wash their uncleanness? Although they received annual remission of sin for that year through the offering, how would they have kept their cleanliness? They had to depend on the

laver.

Those with a mere speck of uncleanness would surely have been put to death if they had come into the Most Holy Place, where God appeared Himself. Then, how the High Priests could come before God? If the laver had been out of water and the High Priest unable to wash his uncleanness, he would not have been able to enter the Holy Place. In other words, unless the priests washed their filth away with the water in the laver, they were unable to give glory to the holy God. Regardless of who they were, even if they were the High Priests. That is, even the High Priest became unclean in his personal sins because he was also only human.

Even the righteous had encountered events that tainted their hearts. Sometimes righteous angers arise in us, when we encounter evildoers while doing the works of God. Like this, whenever fleshly thoughts creep up in our hearts, they taint out hearts. Hence, in the Old Testament times, if a High Priest wanted to come before the holy presence of God, he had to pass by the altar and wash his hands and feet clean with the water from the laver before he went into the Tabernacle of meeting and perform his duties.

Then, what kind of faith should we hold in the present time? We can find the answer to this question in the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. In what kind of faith should the righteous pray, worship, and praise before God? Of course it must be in the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Likewise, when we pray to, praise, and worship God, we must do so by depending on the gospel of the water and the Spirit. It is essential for us to depend on it if we are going to praise God without any sin.

In what kind of faith should we approach God? We are able to approach God by believing

in Jesus’ baptism and His blood. So, we are able to live out our faith by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit so that the name of God may be considered holy before the people of the world as well as before Satan the Devil. In conclusion, we can give holiness and glory to the name of our Father through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

## Jesus Christ Who Has Blotted Out All Our Sins

If look at the Scripture passage in Exodus chapter 25 verses 1 to 12, it talks about the Ark of the testimony. Inside the sanctuary, God told the Israelites to make the Ark. The specs of the Ark were *“two and a half cubits shall be its length, a cubit and a half its width, and a cubit and a half its height” (Exodus 25:10).* And it’s inside and outside had to be overlaid with pure gold. More specific instructions were given for the construction of the Ark. And as God said, *“You shall put into the ark the Testimony which I will give you,”* the two stone tablets of the Law Moses received from God were to be placed inside it (Exodus 25:16). Once the two stone tablets of the Law were placed inside the Ark, they had to put the mercy seat on top of the ark. This signifies God’s mercy and fairness. That implies that Jesus Christ washed away our sins in accordance with the statutes of the Law by taking upon Himself our sins through the baptism He received and shedding His blood on the Cross. Through this, we are told that in the Kingdom of God there are God’s fairness and His love as well. And to atone for every human being, the price of life should be paid off with out exception.

We can receive the remission of sin after

experiencing death according to the just Law that the holy God has given. Put differently, we can receive the remission of sin because Jesus Christ came onto this earth, took upon Himself all our sins through the baptism He received from John the Baptist, and died for us vicariously on the Cross. We have received new life through the love and justness of God. We must not forget that we should have died for our sins in regards to God’s just Law. Furthermore, we have to remember that we have been delivered because Jesus Christ took our sins through His own baptism once and for all, died on the Cross, and being resurrected from the dead. All of us are able to approach before God by believing in that Word and to give glory to the name of God though our faith. We have been washed from all our sins in our faith because of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Whoever believes in the gospel of the water and the Spirit can be delivered from all his sins.

Believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit did not receive their remission of sin in the manner of the worldly religions. It was possible because our Lord received the baptism from John the Baptist and offered His own life on the Cross in order to save our lives. Jesus came to this world in the flesh of man and took all of our sins by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist in order to offer His own life for us, so that we may have a just salvation. Jesus received the baptism to take all our sins away. Then, He died on the Cross and, on the third day, was resurrected from the dead. Jesus gave us new life by ransoming His own life for ours. Hence, He made it possible for us to become holy through our faith. It is through our faith that we have become sanctified by Jesus’ gospel of the water and the Spirit. Thus, that God became our Father, and Jesus became our Savior God.

We pray, *“Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.”* The name of our Father is glorified when we believe in the gospel Word of the water and the Spirit. That is because Jesus received baptism to take all our sins and paid off the wages of those sins on the Cross in order to bring us back to life and make us the children of God. We believe in Jesus Christ because God the Savior ransomed the price for our lives by coming into this world in the lowly flesh of man, taking the sins of the world onto that flesh through His baptism, and shedding His blood on the Cross. Jesus gave the believers the remission of their sins and received the judgment for all of our sins by receiving His baptism and dying on the Cross according to His Father’s will. This was the worthy price of His sacrifice to give us new life. Our Lord delivered us from all our sins through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Thus, we were able to become God the Father’s own children and able to call God our Abba Father without a glimpse of a guilty conscience. By doing thus, we were able to glorify the name of our Father.

## The Lord’s Prayer Is Not a Religious Chant

People repeat the Lord’s Prayer as if it were a magical spell. However, we must realize that the name of our Father is not glorified by such chanting. They may also sing the Lord’s Prayer by adding melody to it, but that per se does not glorify the name of our God either.

We must realize that the Lord’s Prayer was given to us not just to be memorized. If we are truly to call God as our Holy Father, we must first believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, in which our sins were washed away.

Jesus gave us new life and blotted out all our sins by the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which states that He redeemed us with the price of His own life. We must receive the remission of sin by believing in that Jesus Christ. Also, we must ask for help calling the most Holy God Abba Father. At least, we should not hold wrong beliefs that disgrace the name of our Father. If you believe in Jesus Christ doctrinally without having faith in the power of God that blotted out all your sins, your faith is corrupted one no matter how strong faith you have. Although you may be unable to give glory to God, you should never disgrace the name of God with your wrong faith. Such faith does not believe in the baptism of Jesus.

God is holy, and His name should be properly glorified. Those who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit can give a sacred glory to the most holy God, and they are truly God’s own children. We must give glory to God with our true faith. In order to do so, we have to first believe in the gospel that washes away all our sins. Then, our Lord provides answers to our prayers whenever we ask for His help. Hence, we must give glory to our Lord by believing in that gospel.

Every person needs to receive the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Furthermore, because we keep committing sins even after we have received the remission of sin, we have to daily wash away those personal sins spotlessly by believing in the baptism Jesus received, which is the water in the laver of bronze. We have to wash away the sins in our consciences spotlessly by ruminating on the baptism Jesus received from John the Baptist. Also, we must know and believe that the name of God the Father is glorified at that instance. Our Lord has taught us the Lord’s Prayer in order to

plant such a faith in us. Therefore, for those who have not yet received the remission of sin, they first need to believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit to receive the remission of sin. For those who still remain as sinners after having believed in Jesus, they will receive the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Only then will they be able to glorify God’s name in a proper manner.

Today’s Christians recite the Lord’s Prayer most frequently. They recite the Lord’s Prayer at the beginning of worship at their gathering and at the end of the worship led by a lay clergy, who has not yet been ordained. As the mark of the beginning of worship, they usually recite the Apostle’s Creed, and at the end of the worship, they recite the Lord’s Prayer.

However, our Lord did not teach us the Lord’s Prayer to be practiced in such ways. He did not give us the Lord’s Prayer so that we can demonstrate our good faith by memorizing it and reciting it well. Rather, He requires true believers in God to receive the remission of sin. To become such a people of faith, we need to ask for His guidance. Moreover, we need to lead ethical lives in faith in our daily walks. He has taught us the born again the Lord’s Prayer so that we may glorify the name of our Father by keeping our remission of sin and ruminating on the gospel of the water and the Spirit on a daily basis. In order to truly blot out any guilt in our consciences and sanctify our consciences, we have to completely wash away the filth in our consciences with the water drawn from the laver of bronze on a daily basis.

The God given Ten Commandments are the backbone of the Law, its most central pillar, and the mirror that reflects every heart as it is. This applies not only to those who have not received the remission of sin but also to those who have

received the remission of sin as well. The Bible says that the Law is not abolished just because we have received the remission of sin (Romans 3:31). We must unmistakably know this.

We don’t always live a sanctified life even after receiving the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. When we are doing the works of the gospel, we can keep ourselves away from sin. But when we go back to our old selves and do the works of the flesh, we still live committing sins. You have to know that your sinful actions are not regarded as sins just because you believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Sin is still sin regardless of who commits it. Even if it is committed by someone having received the remission of sins, sin is still sin.

Then, how can we discern what constitutes sin in our lives? Is it sin when we have doubts about the way we have lived our lives? It is not! God spoke to us as follows. *“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ‘You shall have no other gods before Me’” (Exodus 20:2-3)*. God is speaking to the Israelites, who are His chosen people, as well as to us, who have been born again of water and the Spirit. When we reflect on all our thoughts, hearts, and deeds on the God given Law, we are able to discern whether they are our sins or not. To both the born again as well as those who have not been born again yet, God’s Word of Law has the ability to distinguish sins. There is no other means by which we can discern our sins except for this Law. Our deeds are not defined as sins because we feel they are, but they are classified as sins when they have broken God’s appointed Law. The way to discern sin is not based on our own thoughts. Rather, we must realize and believe that our deeds or thoughts constitute sins when we go against the

Word of God.

We have to acknowledge that our actions have been sinful, when certain sins are made aware to us through the Law of God. And when we acknowledge our sins as such, we are able to wash away all our sins through our faith in the baptism of Jesus Christ. We are sanctified anew when we acknowledge our wrongdoings, go before our Lord, and wash ourselves with the water of Jesus’ baptism. To wash with the water from the laver of bronze is to believe that Jesus took all our sins away with His baptism He received from John the Baptist. Our filthy consciences can become clean by believing in the works our Lord has done to take away our sins. Only through the baptism Jesus received can we wash our consciences clean. Our daily sins are washed away only by the faith established in believing that Jesus took upon Himself all our sins through His baptismal at the laying on of hands by John the Baptist. Our faith in the baptism Jesus received from John the Baptist and the blood He shed on the Cross, crucified by the Roman soldiers, can blot out all our sins. We can gain a clear conscience with this faith. We are able to keep ourselves sacred on a daily basis through that faith.

The “our” in the first phrase “Our Father in heaven” from the prayer our Lord has taught us signifies the saints, who have been born again of water and the Spirit. For those who have sins in their hearts can never become disciples of Jesus Christ.

## *“You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy”*

God the Father is telling us, *“You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy” (Leviticus*

*11:45)*. Hence, we, who have received the remission of sin through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, have to continuously keep our piety by faith. Of course, we cannot become holy through our own deeds. However, we can become holy by believing in Jesus’ baptism, which is the real Truth, as the Truth of salvation. The reason we are able to keep our piety is owing to the fact that Jesus has received His baptism for our sake. We are able to completely wash away all our sins in the consciences, in our souls, and in our flesh by believing in the salvation of the water and the Spirit. Hence, we who have become the children of God are able not to disgrace the name of our Father.

Truly, we have to live out our faith that is proper to the born-again who have faith to glorify the name of God. Truly, in our lives, we must live realistic lives of faith. We are able to live a proper life before God only when we base our lives on the true faith and not some ethical actions of ours. Our Lord has already completed everything for us to live such a life realistically. That is possible because our Lord has come to this world and received His baptism from John the Baptist. Moreover, it is also because He shed His blood on the Cross.

Our Lord said in 1 Peter chapter 3, verse 21: *“There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”* If our conscience could come forth toward God, we have faith in the fact that our Lord has come to this world and taken upon Himself all our sins once and for all onto Himself by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist, and that He died on the Cross. We are sanctified by our faith in the Truth that our Lord has completely washed

away all our sins as well as our sense of guilty with His baptism. Hence, we are able to live our lives appropriately by faith, and pray most appropriately in accordance with the Lord’s Prayer, which our Lord has taught us. Dear fellow believers, do you comprehend? I am sure, you do.

We do not give glory to the name of God the Father by living well in our flesh. That is possible only by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. If we believe in this gospel, we are able to live according to the Lord’s Prayer. Although it may be impossible for us to be holy with our acts of the flesh, the Bible says that it is possible by the Spirit of our God, Jehovah. Likewise, those who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit are the men of faith who possess the true spiritual faith.

How are we able to cleanse our hearts? How are we able to wash away the sins of our flesh? It is possible only by knowing and believing in the God-given Truth that constitutes the gospel of the water and the Spirit. It is possible by believing in the Lord-given gospel of the remission of sin, which cleansed our sense of guilt as well as all our sins of the flesh. Furthermore, our bodies and spirits can be washed cleanly through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Thus, we are able to love and serve our holy Lord continuously and unwaveringly. Only the possessors of the true faith can call God Abba Father and live as soldiers of Christ. This blessing is available only if we believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and apply that gospel realistically in our lives. This faith enables us to boldly go before God day after day. We are able to live boldly only in our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Only in our faith are we able to live well, doing the righteous works for a lifetime

with a clear conscience.

God has empowered you and me, who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, to live in such a fashion. Some people sometimes speak nonsense that they have never committed another sin after they have received the remission of sin. However, God says in the Bible, *“For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin” (Ecclesiastes 7:20)*. If we had not committed any personal sins in this world, our Lord would not have had to take away the sins of the world once and for all. How could anyone live in this world without committing any sin? People are without sin despite committing numerous sins because our Lord has blotted out all of those sins through the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

## Are You Holy Because You Have Never Sinned?

Dear fellow believers, are you the righteous or sinners? If you say you are the righteous, is it because you have never committed any sin or because you have become the righteous through your faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit? It is not the fact that we have no sin in our consciences because we have never committed any sin. Our Lord has taken our sins onto Himself by receiving His baptism. He died bearing the sins of this world on the Cross, where He received the judgment for those sins while shedding His blood. He was resurrected from death and has become our perfect Savior. We have received the remission of sin in our consciences and become clean and holy by believing in that Jesus Christ. We have become the righteous in our faith because our Lord has

given us such faith. Have we become the righteous by believing or by truly not committing any sin? We have become the righteous through our faith and not by not committing any sin.

There is not a single person who remains righteous by not committing any sin after he received the remission of sin. Some people say that those who have become the righteous do never sin again. They say that they are perfect in body and spirit. However, since we have our flesh, we can never become perfect in the flesh although we have become perfect spiritually by faith. We are always unstable and imperfect. We have become perfect only because our Lord has made such people as us perfect. So, God speaks to us, “Be perfect, for I am perfect. You are holy, for I have made you holy.” We are holy in our faith only because the Lord has made us holy through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We really become holy and perfect not by our greatness or perfection but by believing in the Truth that Jesus has sanctified us through the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

Dear fellow believers, sometimes we feel lost on how we should live our lives even after we have received the remission of sin. And sometimes we live recklessly since we have indeed received the remission of sin. “It doesn’t matter if I live in this way since I have received the remission of sin. I am helpless, naturally disposed to be this way. Also, who cares since I have received the remission of sin? I can’t help but live this way because of my current situation. Of course, I have no sin because I have received the remission of sin.” There are people who think this way and live recklessly.

At this we say that he has a dusty and hairy conscience. We have pluck off the hairs on our consciences and wash away the filth of our conscience with our faith in the gospel of the

water and the Spirit. That is truly possible only if we take our sins before the Law of God and reflect upon that Law. Truly, we are able to know our own sins only when we acknowledge the Law of God. We then are able to wash away all of our sins and become holy by believing in the baptism our Lord received and the blood of the Cross.

## How Can We Live a Proper Life Now That We Have Received the Remission of Our Sins?

The righteous, who have received the remission of sin by their faith, are able to live truly well if they live as soldiers of Christ. There may be people who feel lost for a direction in their lives, even after they have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Such people could exist. “I go to church because I feel uneasy, bored and without fun, if I skip church.” There could be people who feel this way.

Yet, our Lord has spoken explicitly. *“Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:9-10).* God wants to be treated as holy by those who have received the remission of sin. Then we are able to know that going to church as if we were going to a picnic or an event cannot delight God. If one tries to live stubbornly according to his own wish without the guidance by the servants of God, it prevents him from being anointed with the precious oil of the head that is running down onto the edge of his garments (Psalm 133:2).

To glorify the name of God is to renew our hearts by ruminating on our faith daily and to

live a life of faith that goes before God. Those who have received the remission of sin must keep their faith well and wash cleanly in their faith so that they can always keep their conscience, flesh, and hearts holy with that faith. We need faith that washes our hands and feet cleanly by drawing the water from the laver of bronze. That is, we have to live while constantly keeping ourselves pure, clean, and holy by washing our personal sins away through our faith in the Word of the baptism Jesus received and His blood of the Cross. We have to realize our sins through the Law and admit those sins with a contrite heart. Then, we must wash them away cleanly by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. That is, we must call God our Father and do His works by being holy as our Lord is holy. We must live out our faith with our goal set on faith so that our lives can realistically become holy by faith.

Those who have received the remission of sin must never forget their identity and status. At least, God in Heaven is Father to you and I, if we are the righteous believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Those who are able to believe and call God their own Father by saying *“Our Father in heaven”* are actually rare. Not anyone can do that. It is not possible by money, by ethics, or by an ascetic life in a monastery. Only those who have received the divine blessing from Heaven can call God Abba Father This truly is a special right reserved for those who have received a special grace from God. In other words, only those who have received the remission of sin by being born again of water and the Spirit are able to become the children of God.

Although we live in this world, we must be well aware of our own status. You and I are God’s children who have received divine blessings and the only ones who can call God

Abba Father. We must know and admit that our status has been elevated and live our lives in faith appropriate to that status as soldiers of Christ, differentiated from those who have not yet been born again.

When we see a menace, we usually ask, “Whose child is that bastard child?” What does a bastard child mean? We call someone who has been raised without a father by that name. There are many people in this world who have been raised by single mothers without the assistance of their fathers. A bastard child does not designate all of those people. By calling someone a bastard child, we are not pointing out that the person is fatherless but that his actions are below commonsense. Like this, if a child is a menace, that fact disgraces his parents.

If a person who has received the remission of sin lives by the same ethics and morality as those who have not yet received the remission of sin, that person would not have satisfied God’s heart as He taught us to pray, *“Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.”* At least, if we have become the children of God, we should not disgrace the name of our Father.

If a person who has received the remission of sin lives in this world as a menace, it is because he is unaware of his status as a born again person. As a result, such a righteous person cannot but live side by side with those who have not yet been born again by their ethics, morality, values, and standards. We are definitely God’s own children, and the worldly people know that there is definitely something different in us as compared to themselves. ‘Regardless of his age, that person may be somehow different since he has received the remission of sin. Still, he does not live any differently from us. That is a joke. He is just a free loafer, although he may believe in God. There is nothing different about him

compared to a nonbeliever. Perhaps, God is not that great.’ People call him names as such behind his back. Not only is he disgraced then, but he disgraces God as well. If you are such a person, people may not say anything while they are hanging out with you, but they will talk dirty behind your back. The end of he who forgets his own status and throws his especially worthy rights away like an old pair of shoes will be ruined in miserable slanders. That happens because he has not lived up to his status.

## The Righteous Must Unite with the Other Righteous by Faith to Live for the Lord

The righteous must associate with other righteous people. Even if we just tell jokes like ‘you will receive a three year sentence for talking too loud in the restroom in accordance with criminal statute so and so’ in the restroom, we must associate with other righteous people. Of course, I am not telling you not to do anything with those who have not been born again yet at all. You should not take my words to mean that you should not deal with those who have not been born again at all. We should not treat those who have not yet received the remission of sin as if they were lesser beings than even bugs. Instead, we have to share the gospel with them. Although we deal with them, our faith should be different from theirs. Those who have been born again should definitely lead a distinct life of faith from those who have not been born again yet. The faith in our hearts must be different from theirs even though our deeds are not perfect just like theirs are.

Even we the righteous who have been born

again hold various positions while living in the world. Also, we have departments and organizations that we belong to. Each of us has a job, an office, a family, and friends. Although we live our lives belonging to those various groups, our hearts must be differentiated from the hearts of the worldly people. Not just because it has to be different, but we became different already for real. That is because we have become citizens belonging to Heaven. We have already become different persons with a differentiated faith in our hearts. So, how can we possibly coexist with those who have quite a different faith and hearts? Even if we are put into a situation where we have to mingle with them, the faith and thoughts in our hearts have to be fundamentally different from them.

## Then, to Which Gospel Should We Adapt Our Lives?

We must live by the faith in God’s gospel of the water and the Spirit. That is a given. God has spoken of such a life. No matter how unremarkable we who have received the remission of sin are, we are different from sinners. Sinners are subjects with whom we should share the gospel. We who are soldiers of Christ should lead them into Christ so that they could receive the remission of their sins. Sinners of this world are pitiful souls who have not received the complete remission of sin yet. Those who have not yet been delivered from their sins are subjects who should receive the remission of sin by listening to the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We should know thus and live accordingly.

First of all, we have to draw a clear-cut line between our enemies and allies in our heart. Only

then are we able to have compassion for our enemies and to lead them to receive the remission of sin so that they can be revived in body and spirit. If we don’t separate our enemies from our allies and treat them essentially the same, we are unable to share the truthful and good gospel with them. When we try to share the gospel with people with whom we had fun cracking jokes till a moment ago, we cannot but fall into awkwardness. “Hey! What’s up with this sudden change? You have lived no different from me all along. Why do you pretend to be so spiritual all of a sudden? That is so unlike you. That doesn’t suit your taste. It is more like you to act like us like you did just a moment ago. Don’t say anything absurd and let’s live as we have till now. Get a grip.” This is how the people of the world react when you suddenly show your seriousness to preach the gospel. Because we the righteous know each other’s essence and each other’s hearts and faith, we can shift from the flesh to the spirit in an instant. However, this is not possible when we deal with sinners. That is because they do not even know that their fundamental nature is so sinful.

What did our Lord say in today’s Scripture passage? He told us to pray, *“Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.”* He said that we should live by faith so that the name of our Father is glorified. In order to live thus, I shall tell you once more that we should believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and do the works of God, spreading the gospel throughout the world.

If it were not for the Lord given gospel of the water and the Spirit, we would not have been able to receive the remission of sin and hold the faith that glorifies the name of God. Our Lord came to this world and took all our sins onto Himself by receiving His baptism. He thus bore

all the sins of the world to the Cross, where He was crucified and shed His blood till His death. And on the third day, He was resurrected from the dead. If our Lord had not done thus, our sins would still remain intact. There would not have been a means to receive the remission of sin if it weren’t for the baptism our Lord received and the blood He shed on the Cross.

Therefore, we are thankful that He gave us the gospel of the water and the Spirit and enabled us to know this gospel and believe in God the Savior. If we had not the Word of faith in our Lord, we would not possess the sacred life that we now possess. If we had not believed in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, how could we have lived such a life? How could we call the name of God? And how could we live our elevated lives that enable us to enjoy the privilege to call the holy God as our Father? We could not help but live the life of a maggot that populates country style toilets eating their filth. We thank God for calling such as us to call God in Heaven our Father. This life is of the amazing power of our God.

We who have been born again through the gospel of the water and the Spirit never live like maggots, no matter how weak we may be. Everyone who has the likeness of God can become a child of God by believing in His gospel, although he may currently be a sinner bounded by his sins. Although the world is filled with God’s creations, they are fundamentally different from human beings. No matter how hard they try, except for humans, no other creature can become a child of God. Only humans can become the children of God by receiving the remission of their sins through their faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. This is a gigantic difference between humans and all other creatures.

Even among people, there are different types of people. There are those who have already received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. They are the ones that have become the children of God by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Where do the children of God, who have received the remission of sin, go after they have lived their lives in this world? They are embraced by God the Father and enter the Kingdom of God, Heaven.

## Hence, the Millennial Kingdom and the Eternal Kingdom of God Awaits Us

The Millennial Kingdom is a place God has prepared to reward the righteous. The righteous would rule as kings for a thousand years in that place. We haven’t been to that place yet. Still, we are able to imagine that place. Also, we long for it, as it is already realized in our hearts through our faith. What we know is that every Truth God has promised us will be fulfilled as it is written in the Word of God. Even now, we daily experience every blessing through our faith.

People in this world wish to enjoy a higher cultural life. Human culture enables people to live well and conveniently. So, we call more developed cultures that enable us to live even more conveniently a good culture. All the basic needs are satisfied quite delicately by such developed cultures, and people try to enjoy even newer and better cultures. They enjoy listening to music and watching movies as well as other cultural activities. As they enjoy their cultures in such fashion, they soon grow tired of them and demand even higher cultures.

We can observe this trend very easily in our

daily lives. When we travel by our vehicles, we stop at resting areas on the highway. At those instances, we have to choose which resting area out of many resting areas we will stop at. Traveling from Choon-chun to In-jae Training Center, there are two resting areas. One is called ‘Pampas’ and the other ‘Sam-po.’ When choosing from either Pampas or Sam-po, if their food and cleanliness are similar, we would choose the one with a better environment and scenery. We would choose to go to a dignified place where we would feel our prestige, character, and reputation elevated. It would be a different place that we choose to enter, if we were traveling to another region. However, there is one thing that doesn’t change; it is that we would stop at the best resting area among many others. It is natural for us to prefer the best resting area, where the food and atmosphere are good for the same price.

Do you know why people want to stop at such rest areas? That is because God has imprinted in human hearts a longing for the Kingdom of God. Because the Kingdom of God, Heaven, is a beautiful, prestigious, elegant, and pleasant place, people prefer such places even in this world.

Especially, women tend to prefer a romantic atmosphere than any other elements of a restaurant. Regardless of how good the food tastes, if the restaurant has a decent atmosphere, women give that restaurant a high mark. However, men usually care less about the atmosphere and more about the quantity and quality of the food the restaurant offers. Although this may not be true for all men, but generally men care less about the atmosphere than women do.

I have no idea what great places you have been to, but imagine the best place you have been to where you were also treated the best. The

Kingdom of Heaven is a place where you will be happier than any moment you have ever enjoyed at the best places on earth where you were treated like a VIP. The earthly paradise, the Millennial Kingdom that our Lord has given us, will enchant us more than any great scenery in this world. We will rule as kings for a thousand years in such a kingdom. The Millennial Kingdom is the place where God will reward those who believe and serve the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

There is a better place than any other in this world, and that place is the eternal Kingdom of God. There is no inconvenience in Heaven because God Himself rules there as King and it is filled with all kinds of good things. Green pastures fill the land, while flowers bloom to form roads. Ponds are filled with the cool jade-green water as well as swimming golden carps. You can slide through the space wherever your feet leads. Sparkling jewels never seen before on earth are scattered all over. And when you close your eyes, wind as light as a feather blows softly by your skin. A soft wind whispers by your ears, and sunlight makes the soft skin of a child even brighter. The Kingdom of Heaven is such a wonderful place to live. The Millennial Kingdom and the eternal Kingdom of God are places that are beyond comparison to any great place in this world.

I visit the Millennial Kingdom daily through my faith. Whenever I go to Pampas Resting Area, I think about how much better the Millennial Kingdom would be. Whenever I see a great scenery, I imagine how much more breathtaking the Millennial Kingdom would be. Like this, whenever I observe something beautiful in this world, I am ecstatic about the Millennial Kingdom, which will be given to us in the coming age. Our hearts are already in

Heaven. We gain nothing by disgracing God, who will give us the Millennial Kingdom and the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as it is a greater shame to disgrace our parents than it is to be disgraced yourself, it is unimaginable to disgrace the name of God the Father as children of God, who have been born again of water and the Spirit.

I am not saying this to strengthen your will to live well. I just admonish that you would have faith in the Word of God in your hearts. Just as the Word of God said that the righteous should live by faith alone, we should not forget our obligation and live our lives to glorify the name of the Father. We need to live our lives with a correct and truthful faith. To do thus, we actually have to live out our faith in a spiritual culture of the righteous that is constructed on faith. Because God is pleased with such living, God really gives many blessings to His own children. God has admonished us to live by faith. Dear fellow believers, do you comprehend? I am sure you do.

The only way we can glorify the name of our Father is to believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. If you think that you can serve our Lord by some human talent that you possess, remember that such was the offerings made by Cain that God did not accept. Like the offerings Abel made in his faith, we are able to please God and give glory and honor to God only through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Glorifying the name of our Father and living a life that gives glory before Him is also possible only through the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Through the gospel of the water and the Spirit, you and I have become children of God, and we can live lives that give the proper glory to the name of our Father.

We cannot help but give thanks to God who gives us His grace that enables us to live by such a genuine faith. Yet, there are those who refuse

to receive such grace. “Don’t expect me to live such a life. I wasn’t born for such purpose.” If there are those who feel that way, please don’t.

Look at me. You would probably have a better understanding once you take a look at me. It is amazing that I am leading such a life after having met our Lord. My life has changed tremendously in faith. Before I was born again, I could not give up the human greed to own some real estate one day. However, I do not envy even the tallest skyscrapers now. That is because I have many homes more comfortable and spacious than such buildings. They are the churches of God. There is a church of God in Sokcho, which is my home. There are churches of God also in Seoul and Pusan, which are also my homes. No matter where I go in this world, they are my homes. Where I lie to sleep is my home, and where I live is my hometown. That is how I feel.

Our brothers lost to our pastors’ wives 9 to 2 in an indoor soccer match this afternoon. Of course, the match was played 5 brother workers against 9 pastors’ wives. We were truly pleased that we lost by a huge margin. Why would we lose by a score like 9 to 2? It felt great once we thought that we lost by a score of 9 to 2 to treat them well. Yet, the more I think about it, the result also provokes me. I feel thus because I can’t understand how we could lose so helplessly. I feel a little furious when I am reminded of another game that we lost by a score of 8 to 1. How could we lose so badly? I decided to accept this as the will of God.

But we were also happy to see the pastors’ wives rejoicing over the scores, for they are our sisters. I believe that only you who were born again of water and the Spirit are my brothers and sisters. Although we are not related in blood as brothers and sisters, I believe that we are spiritually one family in the Kingdom of God.

How about you? Do you also believe so? I am sure you do. This is a true blessing to us. In the Kingdom of God, those who are to be treated well will be treated well, and those who are worthy will be treated as worthy. We will find the coworkers in God worthy. If brothers and sisters treat each other as worthy, could we not yield and lose a little bit to each other? Is that not what it means to be a family?

Yet, I think that one day we will take revenge. Even though we have lost so badly when we could not possibly have lost as such, I am happy by the thought that this too must have been the power of God. As a matter of fact, I lost all my appetite when we had lost the game. Actually, we the pastors have analyzed how we lost by a score of 9 to 2. How did we lose by a score of 9 to 2? When we were down by 3 to 0 and 4 to 0, we justified that we were being easy on them. We thought that real players start playing in the second half. We thought that we could come from behind very easily, but we were mistaken. We gave our best effort even using fouls, but we still lost by a score of 9 to 2. We could not help but be stunned. “How could this happen?”

While we were feeling blue, a little deeper thought revealed that this was quite fortunate. When we thought how depressed the pastors’ wives would have been if they had lost, I felt that it is better that we were a little bit down. The pastors’ wives already have suffered enough stress, so if this win could console them even a little we would lose to them at any cost. Yet, I wanted to win the game if another opportunity availed itself. Although we lost because we lacked in talent, I felt good when I thought that all of this was according to the will of God. Since the pastors’ wives won, they brought us a lot of delicious food. Lately, it’s been an ongoing festivity. If we had won, I wonder whether we

would be having this festivity.

We bragged about our huge loss to other coworkers we have met. Many of them who heard this probably would have thought that they would not have lost by 9 to 2 if they had played. So, we actually played a match for simulation. The result of this simulation was that they would have lost by a score of 15 to 0, if they had played with the best team of the pastors’ wives.

All of this is possible because all of us are in the Kingdom of God. And all of this delights us. No matter what, we have become one family by receiving the remission of sin through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Those who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit are sinless since they have received the remission of sin. Thus, their hearts are always in Heaven, and they can laugh aloud day after day.

How about you? Are you able to display a big smile that comes from your heart? Are there too many sins that prevent you from bursting into laughter? No way. You have no sin. We have no sin. The conscience of the believer in the gospel of the water and the Spirit is clean. We have become the children of our Father by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Now we should possess such faith as to glorify the name of God the Father. We should give thanks to our Lord in faith for having us live lives that glorify the name of our Father. We can truly enjoy a blessed life if we live by faith in the Truth. If we do thus, God will receive glory and we will receive many blessings.

God has given us such a life, and He has taught us to live such a life. We give thanks for God’s grace of giving us the life of faith to glorify the name of God. This is the first prayer subject that our Lord has taught us.

Let’s live a life that glorifies God being united with the Church in faith.✉

# Workers Who Build The Kingdom of God On This Earth

**< Matthew 6:10 >**
**"Your kingdom come.**
**Your will be done**
**On earth as it is in heaven."**

How was your breakfast? Did you sleep well last night? Of course, you did. I slept pretty well myself. If you were cold or inconvenienced at this Training Center, let the senior staff members know this by any means. If there is anything else that you need, please let us know.

Today, we read from the prayer our Lord has taught us again. Matthew chapter 6, verse 10 says, *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."* I would like to focus on this passage today.

Our Lord said, *"In this manner, therefore, pray" (Matthew 6:9)*. The first lesson was to pray, *"Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name."* That is, we have to pray in a manner that glorifies the name of our Father. The second was to pray, *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."* Our Lord told us to pray like this for the Kingdom of God. God has appointed His own people in this land and told them that He will build His Kingdom on this earth. Also, that "God's will be done on earth as it is in Heaven" is a mandate to the righteous to build the Kingdom of God in this earth.

## We Must Live for the Purpose of the Realization of God's Kingdom on This Land

Who are we before God? We are the soldiers of Christ. We who have received the remission of sin are the soldiers of Christ. What do the soldiers of Christ fight for? They fight for the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ on this land. The reason God appointed us as soldiers of Christ in this land is for us to build the Kingdom of God on this earth. That was a significant imperative included in the prayer our God has taught us.

We are right now spreading the gospel throughout the world. Not any one else but we who have received the remission of sin through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit are spreading the gospel Truth. What would these works of ours constitute? Are we just boasting our rich knowledge? Are we using God to boast ourselves? If not so, what are we doing right now? I tell you truly that our works of spreading the gospel are the works that build the Kingdom of God on this land. Right now, we are building the Kingdom of God throughout the world by spreading the gospel of the water and the Spirit. In Brazil and the United States, in India and Nigeria, and in Australia and the Netherlands, we are spreading the gospel of the water and the Spirit in all the nations in the six continents. That is, we are building the Kingdom of God on this earth. Hence, we are the builders of the Kingdom of God.

We work as the soldiers of Christ. We work for the purpose of building the Kingdom of God on this land. We are spreading the gospel and waging the spiritual war against the power of the

darkness in order to build the Kingdom of God in this land.

## King David Was Also a Warrior for Christ's Kingdom

If we look at chapters 8 to 10 in 2 Samuel, it describes the spiritual war thoroughly. After David became the king of Israel, he fought and won against many nations, including the Moabites, the Philistines, and the Arabs. After the time of Abraham, and after the rule of Moses, the time of the Judges came. And after that, God anointed David as the king of Israel. David fought with many surrounding nations and conquered them. The Bible tells of many tales in which King David fought and overcame his enemies.

Why are there endless wars in the Old Testament? David constantly fought wars against and conquered the likes of the Moabites, the Amalekites, the Philistines, and the Amorites. The conquered nations were subjugated, and their people were enslaved. Once enslaved, they were made to serve God. This is why God was pleased with David.

David as a man of faith feared God and trusted everything in God seeking for His guidance. And as a king, he lived for God. "Only Jehovah and no other is the true God in the land of Israel." That is, King David declared that Jehovah is the only God. God loved David very much, for he lived not for his own glory but for the glory of God alone. Hence, God gave him many blessings. And those blessings overflowed into the reign of his son, Solomon.

After David became the king of Israel, he fought endlessly and kept winning. That signifies

that King David built the Kingdom of Christ on this land according to the will of God. God was pleased with David for being loyal to the cause of building the Kingdom of God by fighting endlessly with the enemy nations. That was true because those wars were not merely fought in the flesh but spiritually for the establishment of the Kingdom of God. Consequently, God gave His blessings to David, and he was able to conquer many nations. God started building His Kingdom long ago and was pleased with doing thus.

As a matter of fact, our Lord taught us to pray *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven"* in the Lord's Prayer so that we who have received the remission of sin may pray for the establishment of the Kingdom of God on this earth. "Live to build the Kingdom of God. Pray for this. For this, fight as soldiers and smash your enemies. Subjugate your enemies by the gospel. And then, lead them to believe in this gospel. Reveal to them that the gods they worship are false. And make them into the people of God. Make them surrender before God so that they may become the people of God. Spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which makes all of these become a reality. Hence, build the Kingdom of God. Build it throughout the world as well as in every corner in our own nation. Make every person surrender before Jehovah God. And make them serve God. And make them into God's own people." This is the will of God toward us.

We are serving the gospel right now. People who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit are serving the gospel. God tells us to unite together for the purpose of serving the gospel. He tells us to continuously unite with the Church and accomplish the works of God that need to be done. Hence, in obedience to God, we do the

works of God ceaselessly. There is no time to rest. We may feel that we would work for a little bit and then rest for a little bit. However, the works of God never cease coming and there is no time to rest.

## What Is It That Our Lord Requires of Us?

Although we have really received the remission of sin, we must correctly know what it is that God demands of us. As the phrase *"Your kingdom come"* implies, what God truly wants is to give the Kingdom of Heaven to us while simultaneously building the Kingdom of God on this earth. God tells us to receive the remission of sin and then to deliver the numerous souls throughout the entire world. Of course, we know very well about our mission to save the souls all over the world. If we know well about the mission entrusted to us after receiving the remission of sin by sharing the gospel Truth of the water and the Spirit, and if we truly know that is the purpose and will of God, I believe that our orientation of life will become clear and concise.

Although talks about the salvation of the souls may sound repetitive, there is no harm in emphasizing such an important topic. That is because it is our duty as Christian soldiers to live in obedience to the imperative to build the Kingdom of God in this land. We have to inscribe it deep into our hearts and know it by heart and believe in it. When we the saints and the servants of God have unfaltering purpose of life to build the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of God will expand through our propagation of the gospel. Although every person has a different role and quite a different task to perform, we

need to have the faith of loyalty to the works of spreading the gospel at the given positions.

Sometimes we face hardship while preaching the gospel. Some people instead of listening attentively to it laugh at it, when we share the gospel of the water and the Spirit with them. Our hearts are hurt when some oppose the gospel of the water and the Spirit, not realizing its true value of the precious pearl and treating it like cow dung to be disposed. There are many foolish people who flush it down the toilet, not recognizing the pearl for its value. There are times when I am not willing to share the gospel, and it is the case that I encounter those who oppose and stand against the gospel. Honestly speaking, I once felt like resting from sharing the gospel awhile.

Just a little while ago, I took a great toil because of diarrhea. After suffering three days of diarrhea, I couldn't bear to make another trip to the rest room let alone the physical toil due to it. I even felt the need to take a binding medicine. Then, I remembered watching on television that diarrhea is caused by the body's reaction of releasing harmful germs out of one's body. Taking a binding medicine prevents the body from releasing those harmful germs out of the body and, thus, actually worsens it. Hence, I endured the pain without taking a binding medicine. I grasped this groundless theory I heard from somewhere so fast that I endured the pain without taking some of the binding medicine. The diarrhea persisted. No matter what I ate, diarrhea persisted. You wouldn't know how painful it was. It was so boring.

Do you feel boring when you are told to spread the gospel repeatedly? Our Lord tells us to spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We hear this everyday. Since we hear this everyday till our ears wear out, don't you feel

tired in your hearts sometimes? Aren't you even a little tired? "Man, I am sick and tired. Every time he opens his mouth, he says the same thing over and over again. Although it may be the right thing, I can't help being sick and tired of it." You might have felt this way. Just as we get tired of the same food, no matter how great it may be, if it is offered to us for every meal, we sometimes get tired of hearing, "Spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Serve the gospel of the water and the Spirit," even though that is the Truth and such living is right.

Despite this, what is the reason our Lord tells the same thing to us over and over again day after day? Our Lord has given the Church the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and we have received the remission of sin by believing in this gospel. What, then, is the reason our Lord tells us to spread the gospel? The passage *"Your kingdom come"* tells us that we should spread the gospel and build the Kingdom of God so that everyone in this world can receive the remission of sin. Because God wants His Kingdom to be built, soldiers of Christ must live such lives. Hence, the second subject of the Lord's Prayer is *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."*

Our God the Father had a plan in Jesus Christ even before He created this universe. The plan was to have as many people as possible receive the remission of sin in Jesus Christ in order to build the Kingdom of God. The plan was also to have many children of God there to live with Him. This has already been realized in the Kingdom of Heaven but not on this land yet. Hence, the mandate is to build the Kingdom of God in each nation on this land. We are told to pray for this mission.

You and I are the soldiers of Christ. Whether we are weak or strong, we are all soldiers of

Christ just the same. Whether we are workers or just ordinary saints, whoever that has received the remission of sin is a soldier of God. Saints of our Church are better workers compared to the pastors of this world. Even if people lure our saints with lucrative jobs to abandon their Churches, they never give in to these temptations that prevent them from uniting with their Churches. Wherever we may be at any time, we meditate on the gospel and live for the gospel and are ever so busy due to the works of the gospel. Therefore, we are all soldiers of Christ.

Soldiers of Christ always charge into the battlefield no matter what. They fight for the Kingdom of God. They share the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Beginning with whether people still have sins or not, they teach who God is, who Jesus Christ is, why Jesus Christ came to this world, how He came and how He delivered us, and whether what we believe is correct or not. By such means, they make nonbelievers surrender and make people of Christ out of them. Furthermore, they lead those people into their respective Churches. That is how to build the Kingdom of Christ. They are indeed building the Kingdom of God on this land.

The gospel is not restricted to any one country. The entire world is the building ground for the Kingdom of Christ. Hence, we should not stay in our own countries but also send our soldiers overseas to build the Kingdom of God. We have to build the Kingdom of God throughout every corner of the entire world. God delights in building His Kingdom in each nation, each region, and each town. That is the purpose that Jesus Christ wanted to achieve by coming to this world. Jesus Christ trampled Satan the Devil and built the Kingdom of God by delivering His people who were dying of the sin they fell into because of Satan the Devil's enticements. Jesus

Christ, who is the King, will take care of His people in the Kingdom of God. He took us to be the soldiers of Christ so that we may receive all the blessings in this land.

You and I are the soldiers of Christ. Soldiers are to wage wars everyday. That is not to kill souls but to revive them. By sharing the Word of Truth with the people who are fallen down in sin and confusion, we deliver the souls from their sins and confusions. If we know that we are the soldiers of Christ and that God desires to build His Kingdom in each nation and each region on this land, the works of spreading the gospel will become so fun to us.

We have to first kill those people spiritually by telling them their sins. To those who have admitted that they deserve to die for their sins and who actually died before the Law of God, we have to bring them the new life by sharing the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Those who believe that they have died to sin by the baptism of Jesus have received new life and the remission of their sins. They are saturated with this heavenly blessing by encountering the gospel of the water and the Spirit and believing in it deep in their hearts. That is what it means to be born again.

The born again belong to the Kingdom of God. They are the soldiers of Christ, God's own people, and His own children. Until the day they become soldiers of Christ, we sometimes kill them as well as revive them. And after we have nurtured them with the Word of God, we will have the joy of giving birth to a new life. This joy is special since not just anyone has the power to give life as well as take it away.

## We Are Workers Building Christ's Kingdom

Not only that, but our joy is even greater since we are building the Kingdom of God through it. Each nation and even the entire world are the fields on which we will build the Kingdom of God. Only the spiritual soldiers who are born again through the gospel of the water and the Spirit can have the power to build the Kingdom of God there. Because none other than God is delighted by us who have settled there and sponsors us, we have so great of a joy. That is how we build the Kingdom of God. This is the special task appointed to us by God to you and me. This is God's calling given to us.

You and I are the soldiers of Christ. I am not saying that we should be excited ourselves, while boasting that we are the people of God and the soldiers of Christ. What I am saying is that we should have the faith to live as soldiers of Christ. When we are aware of our responsibilities, we can walk straight on a course without being led astray. God is building His Kingdom here on earth. That is what God desires. I have no doubt, that you and I are the soldiers of Christ. And when I think of our Lord who wishes to build the Kingdom of God all over the world, I feel a strong sense of duty as a soldier for spreading the gospel.

What is the job of a soldier? His job is to fight the enemy. With a sword or a spear in his hands, he goes into the battle to kill the enemy. All those who resist are destroyed, and those who surrender hanging white flags are captured and turned into a citizen of this country. How about you? Do you now understand what your task is?

Since we are the soldiers of Christ, we turn all our prisoners of war into children of God by having them receive the remission of sin. Ropes

of sins that were tied inside them should be broken. Their hearts, once bounded by Satan the Devil, should be liberated so that they are made born again. We should do that for them. We are such soldiers bringing them the life of God's blessings, where they can enjoy true freedom.

You and I have to live our lives as the soldiers of Christ. That's all we do besides eating our meals. We lead numerous souls away from the bondage of Satan the Devil throughout the world and share with them the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Once they begin to believe the gospel, we can turn them back to God and accomplish the duty that the Lord has entrusted us, the soldiers of Christ. All we have to do is to take orders from our Lord and carry out them. What pleases our Lord is our duty.

## We Must Seize All Nations with the Gospel

Our Lord delights in building His Kingdom on this land. If we know what our Lord wants precisely, spreading the gospel becomes fun to us. Our country, which we can cover with our thumbs on a world map, is not the end of where the Kingdom of God is built. How many countries are there in the world? They say there are and about 220 countries in the world. And we want to plant at least 5000 churches throughout the world.

Actually, there are many regions in our country, where the Kingdom of God has not been built yet. Not only those places in Korea but also each region of this world, we must build the Kingdom of God. What do we need to do in order to accomplish this task? We have to fight the war as soon as we arrive there and build

God's Churches by having them receive the remission of sin after listening to the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The Church and its leaders will stand, if we are successful in having them receive the remission of sin. And that will constitute the establishment of the Kingdom of God. By the way, we will occupy that region.

As David trampled the Philistines down to death after he became king, we fight the war against those who oppose God. First, we find a person in that region, who is willing to believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and receive the remission of sin, and turn him into an ally by sharing with him the gospel Truth. Then, we have him select warriors out of that land. Putting him in the lead, we grow our might by recruiting more soldiers. Once we draw up a strategy, it is time for a full-fledged war. Thus, we will win the war of faith and build the Kingdom of God in that region. If we have such faith, we will never be sick and tired of sharing the gospel, and we will gladly continue to share the gospel because that is the will of God.

God builds His Kingdom in each region and each nation through us. Do you believe that God works at this through us? I act in faith by believing that sharing the gospel throughout the world is indeed the very work of building the Kingdom of God throughout the world. I don't preach the gospel for its own sake but I preach it to build the Kingdom of God. Right now, we are building the Kingdom of God in the United States as well as in Pakistan and other Islamic countries. God makes pastors in those lands into warriors by granting them the remission of sin to establish the Kingdom of God in those lands. God is building His Kingdom in India as well as all over Africa. Do you believe that God is using us for that purpose?

Dear fellow believers, we who have been born again of water and the Spirit are not ordinary laymen. We are the soldiers of Christ. If we know that we are of such an important status, we must then realize the great endeavor in which we are partaking. Also, if we know our status as soldiers of Christ, we would enjoy waging the wars. Those who do not enjoy waging wars are no longer real soldiers. Soldiers train themselves for war and long for the day a war breaks out. Ordinary citizens are frightened of wars because there is nothing they can do at such times. However, since preparing for war is all soldiers ever do, it is right for the soldiers to heighten their morale as they wait for the day a war breaks out. Once a war actually breaks out, how glad would they be for the opportunity to demonstrate their patriotism? They have sworn their loyalty to maintain the dignity of their country in war. Soldiers only live for the days of war.

Hence, soldiers have what is called “morale.” They treat each situation as a real war situation and maintain their wartime readiness posture. “We are the Skeleton Units! We are waiting for that day of vengeance. Come. We aim, crawl, and train for the day we will trample you beneath our feet.” Soldiers should possess the high morale to go into action anytime they are being called. Everyday they prepare for the day of the battle.

Although they constantly prepare, a war never breaks out. After the Korean War, there was not a single war in Modern Korea. So, what happened? Our soldiers worry about whether their girlfriends have betrayed them or not and end up going to jail for deserting their units. Some worry too much about their families and get depressed for being in the military that they commit suicides. Soldiers who should train hard

with high morale for the day a war breaks out are weakened by their loose minds.

Soldiers in our country these days do not show even the slightest standard of the true soldiers. Our soldiers these days don't even shovel the snow after a blizzard. What kind of a soldier doesn't even perform the minimal task entrusted to them? Truly, soldiers need to be trained hard so that they don't have time to wander off in their minds. What is the task of a soldier? What soldiers have to do is to be trained, but how can they be trained if they are given no work?

Actually, officers today are worried so much about their soldiers deserting their units that they don't train the soldiers too severely. Because soldiers deserting their units affect commanding generals higher up in the ladder, soldiers receive more off time than they do training. In reality, soldiers need to be train hard so that they don't have time to think about their homes, their girlfriends, or deserting their units. Those who went through hardship in the military come out as better persons and gain maturity to honor their parents. Men grow their maturity in the military. However, weak training prevents them from maturing and realizing how harsh the real world is.

The same is applied in the spiritual units. Truly, you and I go through a lot of hardship while serving the gospel. Sometimes, the tasks are so burdensome that we wish we could go off to vacation in an exotic destination or at least get a few days off. Sometimes, the hot weather takes a toil on us. Sometimes, our works are too heavy to endure. "Would it matter if we just served a little bit at a time? After all, we are serving everyday. Man, how can someone push us to work so hard without any rest? Let's take some rest from work." There are times we feel that way.

Why would we not feel the need for rest? We work hard day after day not because we do not know how to enjoy some leisure but because there is so much work to be done. When a book is translated into English, which is not the end of it. We have to further translate that book into every language of the world. There are about 220 countries in the world, and we have to translate our works into at least some 40 to 50 languages. There are so many works to be translated, edited, published in electronic format, printed in paper, and mailed to every destination. We also need to print out stickers and fliers. There just is an abundance of work. There are also a lot of prayer requests along this line. These works require quite a lot of money. So, how much work do we have? There is still too much work to be done. We do these works without hesitation because they are all necessary for the establishment of the Kingdom of God.

Each nation has a different language. In order to share the gospel of the water and the Spirit with them, we have to be able to convey the message in their native tongues. Thus, we have to translate all our literature in each language. And since we cannot go to all nations and personally share the gospel with them, we publish Christian literatures and send them our books. By such works as ours, the Kingdom of God is being built in those places. Although we may have doubts about the outcome, God will make things happen since these are His works. All we need to do is to say yes in obedience whenever He commands us what to do. Although we are a small minority of Christ's soldiers, we can spread the gospel throughout the entire world in union with each other.

It is not an easy task to share the gospel. We wouldn't have to work so hard if we just shared the gospel to individual persons so that they can

receive the remission of sin. However, our objective is not just to spread the gospel. It lies in expanding the Kingdom of God.

It is not possible to expand His Kingdom just by trying recklessly. Then, how is this work possible? To achieve a different objective, we have to seek a different method. In order to accomplish the expansion of the Kingdom of God on this land, which God so desires, we put all our efforts to expand the Kingdom of God with the power of God backing us, although we ourselves are nothing.

## Our Thoughts Have Been Changed

I used to think that sharing the gospel was the end of my work but my thoughts changed. Although we have worked hard on the spreading of the gospel, the problem has changed since our aim and purpose has shifted to the expansion of the Kingdom of God and not just the spread of the gospel. To build the Kingdom of God, people in every corner of this world must receive the remission of sin by being shared the gospel. The Kingdom of God will be built in every corner of this world when God's Churches are built through these people. We have no time to do any other work other than building the Churches of God. We have to fight forcefully the spiritual war with high morale to expand the Kingdom of God. Our hearts, thoughts, and purpose must shift to be in accord with what God wants to accomplish. And we must train our bodies and hearts to fight for that purpose.

Since I am also a human being, I sometimes feel the need to rest. Sometimes, I think to myself that I would like to gather all of our coworkers and rest for awhile. Whenever I think, "Oh boy, I would like to take some rest," I

should change my heart after looking at my coworkers silently doing their works so hard. I realize how childish my wish to rest is after looking at others working so hard at the works of God sweating like pigs on such a hot summer day. That is, I see my coworkers working hard at sending out emails, wrestling with computers, wrapping books to be sent out to the righteous throughout the world, and earning money to support the efforts to serve God.

Actually, each one of us takes charge of so much work. That massive amount of work takes a toll on our bodies, and we would like to take some rest. I am not saying that we should work without resting at all, but that we should both work and rest for our Lord. For us, working as well as resting is doing the works of God.

As we are working, all sorts of things happen. What is important is where the purpose of our hearts lies. We must remember what our Lord told us to pray for and live our lives accordingly. We need to know what the will of our Lord is and unite our efforts accordingly. That is, what did our Lord tell us to do after He gave us the remission of sin? God told us to build His Kingdom on this land. All we have to do is to build the Kingdom of God.

Although God's will includes the spread of the gospel, a more fundamental purpose is to build the Kingdom of God so that Christ can rule as King, receive praise, and receive His glory. That is what God desires. Furthermore, Christ desires that all of us in this land receive the remission of sin so that He can give His grace to those who have received the remission of sin. He desires to clothe us with the grace of salvation, blessings, glory, peace, riches, and the gracious splendor. We know this as a fact and believe in it. Dear fellow believers, do you believe this? Yes, we

do. We have lived that way so far while serving the gospel, and we believe in all of this.

While serving our Lord, I thought that I should at some point preach about the prayer our Lord has taught us. Although I felt the need, I couldn't find the right time. So, it has come to this day that I am finally able to share the Word with the blessings from God.

I realized that God is telling us to build His Kingdom on this land. God told us to build His Kingdom on this land and helped us to elect the workers of God and gather saints to fight the spiritual war in order to build the Kingdom of God. I also realized that our Lord called all of us to be warriors and soldiers of Christ. God has placed us on this land as His warriors and soldiers. When we pray for His purpose, God answers our prayers and helps us. Indeed, God works through us.

God permitted for the Internet to be developed rapidly. I think that it was so that we can spread the gospel throughout the world by this means. Even in our country, the Internet was not as developed just a few years ago. Yet, our country has developed into the front leader in the IT industry. Internet communications are the global trend. You would be surprised to know how many people in our country are Internet users. From the elderly to our kindergarteners, all of them are familiar with computers and enjoy using the Internet. This is quite some development. The entire world is going for this trend. And this is not limited to the developed countries either. The Internet is spreading rapidly even through the developing countries.

A lot of people used to go to the post office to send mail, and taking and delivering mail was the majority business of post offices. However, the volume of letters has decreased so much that post

offices are focusing on just delivering goods. In the post offices, letter mails are decreasing while deliveries of goods have increased. This has to do with development of telecommunications and other means of logistics, but mostly because of the emails sent via the Internet.

I strongly believe that such development of the Internet was due to God's wish to quickly build the Kingdom of God on this land. Since we are spreading the gospel through the Internet, we are able to spread the gospel to the remote places of the world without even visiting them. Those seeking the true gospel come and visit our website. There they are introduced to the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Once they come to believe in the gospel, they participate in the building of the Kingdom of God.

Our Lord has taught us the Lord's Prayer for this purpose. That is the prayer phrase that says, *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."* As this phrase says, the Kingdom of God will surely be established on this land. The gospel will reach every corner of this world. And the Kingdom of God will be established in each nation. That is, workers and believers like you will arise in each nation waging spiritual warfare. If we were merely serving the gospel, we might loose our faith and degenerate into spiritual decay. As a matter of fact, hardship is easier to endure than boredom. God knew that just spreading the gospel would bore us, so He appointed to us the great task of building the Kingdom of God. Working to build the Kingdom of God is not boring. It is another dimension of ministry other than the propagation of the gospel.

"Are you a sinner or a righteous person? Sinners cannot be the people of God, as only the righteous are the people of God. Unlike sinners, the righteous have the distinct purpose of their

lives. They belong to a different place and are different in every way possible. No matter how hard they try, sinners are just sinners belonging to this world. Do you know how to become the righteous?" If we believe in our hearts that we are workers who are establishing the Kingdom of God as well as soldiers of Heaven, our languages change entirely as well as the ways of our lives. The level of spreading the gospel has changed.

"Although we may look alike on the outside, you and I have a crucial difference. Do you know what that is? The difference is in our hearts. Instead of sin, I have the Holy Spirit in my heart. How about you? Don't you have sin in your heart? That is what I mean by being on a different level. Moreover, you and I will face a different ending. No matter how hard you may try, you will end up going to Hell. On the contrary, I will go to Heaven. Your last days will be miserable, full of curses. Mine will be splendid, full of peace and calmness. In another word, I am a holy chosen person of God, who has received the remission of sin by believing in the Christ-given gospel of the water and the Spirit. You, on the other hand, are cursed to work endlessly for Satan the Devil. If you want to get out of the control of the devil and become a child of God, you better listen carefully to what I am going to tell you now. What I am going to tell you now is not my own words but the Word of God. It is the Word of Truth, which will bring you the remission of sin if you only believe in it."

"All of your sins were transferred onto Jesus Christ, when He received His baptism from John the Baptist. Because Jesus who took all your sins died on the Cross, all your sins were blotted out. When you believe that Jesus was resurrected on the third day, you will also resurrect in a holy body and go to the Kingdom of God. This is the

very gospel Word of the water and the Spirit, and you will go to the Kingdom of God if you believe in this Word. And you will have the opportunity to devote your life to the spread of the Kingdom of God, which our Lord has appointed to you. When everything you do is for God, the Kingdom of God will be eminently realized on this land. Those who have received the remission of sin must follow God."

Dear fellow believers, if sharing the gospel was the end of our task, wouldn't it be easy to get bored by so much unilateral work? It will be worthwhile if we have them receive the remission of sin and lead them into our churches to become workers of God. Since not all people are true humans that God intends to remake, if we can guide them to live as true humans, it will be worthwhile for us.

A child barely getting off his mother's breast-feeding soon enters elementary school. It is the wish of a mother to see her child go through middle school and high school and grow into a mature adult and marry a beautiful mate. Just as the mother who sees her child go through his life is proud, it is worthwhile for us to raise numerous souls as the people of God and ultimately into precious soldiers. Just as parents never get tired of raising their children for some twenty years, raising people to become workers of God and the people of God is never a tiresome thing. Because that is the very work of expanding the Kingdom of God, God is pleased with it. We are pleased by the fruit it produces. Just as because our children look beautiful to us, we try to raise them to live as true humans.

I am very fond of a Sunday School student named Euichul. So, I play around with Euichul, calling him "you cute little bastard!" When I play with him, I press him with my legs. Do you know what he says then? He says, "I am tired." I

have heard “It hurts” or “It is tough,” but never have I heard a child say, “I am tired.” As soon as I heard him saying that, my legs weakened. His saying was quite unexpected. Maybe it has to do with genetics, but I don’t know the specific reasons.

Anyways, he is growing up so fast, it was just yesterday he was crying like a baby, and today he has gotten old enough to say, “I am tired.” And soon, he will go to an elementary school. “Mom, I’m going to school.” And he will go to school with a backpack as big as himself on his back.

There was a child named Chaeyoung, who used to run away whenever she saw me. These days, she sits on my lap and greets me with “Hello, pastor. How have you been?” I marveled at how much she had changed, but some different thoughts aroused in my mind simultaneously. I thought how well her parents have taught her and also wondered whether she wants money from me. Well, it turns out that she has learned to behave that way from her kindergarten teacher. She just acted as she was taught, saying “hello” whenever she saw an adult. Kids who never listen to their mothers sometimes listen to their teachers. Watching this, I felt the kids growing up rapidly. Altogether it is so pleasant to watch children growing up.

Why do parents raise their children? Is it to watch them get married to a beautiful spouse and have children of their own? Parents raise their children to see them grow and get married to form a family of their own. That is the heart of a parent and the purpose for which parents raise their children.

God has a similar purpose for which He has placed us in this land as His soldiers. God wants to see us, His own children, spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit and give new birth to

many souls and raise those spiritual children to become soldiers of God as well as His workers.

Our father's generation did not practice birth control. They had so many children for they had given birth to as many children as they conceived. Korean mothers of those days used to bear a dozen kids in turn. The first three or four children were brought up by their mothers. After the third child, the fourth one is raised by the first, the fifth by the second and so on. Since brothers and sisters raised each other in the old days, there was a tight affection between siblings.

This is the same method that can be applied in raising God's workers. God has placed us in this land as His soldiers and wishes to build His Kingdom. God delights in 'producing' many workers of Christ. Hence, God wishes us to spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit to all nations throughout the world and have them receive the remission of sin and lead them into our Churches. That is how to build the Kingdom of God.

The church of God where the righteous believers assemble constitutes the Kingdom of God. Hence, we have to build a Church here and another there. We have to build Churches and spread the gospel to the people thereabout. Hence, we will destroy Satan the Devil, just as the Israelites fought against the Philistines and the Amalekites. Making them surrender by waging a war is how we can turn them around towards God. By leading those who have turned around to God's side, we have them live as the people of God, protected, blessed, and entitled to go to Heaven.

God has placed you and me as His soldiers in this land to build His Kingdom. Do you believe that we the workers and the saints are the builders of the Kingdom of God? We who have

been born again of water and the Spirit are indeed builders of the Kingdom of God. If we the soldiers of Christ do not serve the gospel in His camps and go into the world, we will be killed. we will be killed. Because people do not know that not staying in the Church after they have received the remission of sin is in fact being killed, they go into the world despite the fact that they have received the remission of sin. They may say, “I don’t have to fight the war. I give up. I won’t fight any longer,” and throw away their swords and spears. However, that is not the end of their war but rather the end of themselves.

Soldiers always must be armed with weapons, must always fight whenever enemies appear, and must be able to launch preemptive attacks. They have to be perpetually ready to go into war. And they must always fight united with other soldiers. If they fight on their own instead of united, they will gain nothing but wounds. The same principle can be applied in the spiritual warfare. Only with a common purpose, conviction, and heart to win the war, we have to multiply our strength by covering each other’s weaknesses. As the slogan “United we stand, divided we fall” signifies, we must unite if we are to win spiritual warfare.

God calls us to live for the expansion of the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God has been built in our country, and it is being built in the entire world. Yet, there are still so many regions that have not heard this gospel. Thus, we have to share the gospel of the water and the Spirit to those regions and build the Kingdom of God. Also, in every region where the Kingdom of God is already built, we must encourage them to wage spiritual wars in their surrounding areas. God is telling us to live for the expansion of the Kingdom of God, never ceasing to pray and never ceasing to wage the spiritual war,

plundering from the enemies. Our purpose is to delight God by defeating our enemies and building the Kingdom of God on this earth. As long as God permits, let's try our best with the power of God granted to us. We have to live for the will of God until the day our Lord returns. Lord returns. Only then will we be able to lay down our weapons and cease the war.

Until that day, we who have received the remission of sin must fight the spiritual war. We have to remember that the enemies will have the upper hand if we refuse to fight the spiritual war and refuse to build the Kingdom of God. Thus, we must unite with the Church, take care of the wounded, and keep praying for the achievement of our task. Dear fellow believers, do you believe so?

You and I have served the gospel well so far. However, if we just think, "Spreading the gospel? I don't know much about it. Sending books? I guess the gospel is being spread somehow," we cannot accomplish God's work. "Wow, God's Kingdom is being built like this. God's Kingdom is being raised in that area." This is the reaction of a man of faith. We must remember this.

We are personally experiencing that the Kingdom of God is now being established everywhere. As we continued our spiritual warfare to spread the gospel of the water and the Spirit, over 800 coworkers throughout the world rose up. Now, we are witnessing the establishment of the Kingdom of God in each nation with our own eyes. Not only are we imagining in our minds that the Kingdom of God is being built, but the Kingdom of God is actually being built in each nation.

We who have been born again of water and the Spirit must live out our faith knowing the works God is accomplishing through us. We are

not that capable because our flesh is weak and insufficient. If we just act on our own will and shout by saying “let’s do it” as found in social campaigns, we won’t be very effective. If we say, “Let’s unite thus,” we end up falling apart. We will scatter, saying, “What nonsense are you talking about. I am really busy.” Although we haven't promoted a “let’s do it” project in spreading the gospel, because our Lord has delivered us and because the Lord-given grace is so abundant and amazing, we are spreading the gospel out of our voluntary hearts that desire to share this precious gospel wholeheartedly.

We must know this. Especially, staff workers must know this. If we gather up the saints and say to them “let’s do it,” it will amount to nothing. Although they may do it every now and then, they won’t accomplish very much. However, if we say, “Our Lord took all our sins upon Himself through His baptism, bearing those sins of the world He was crucified on the Cross, and delivered us by being resurrected from death. We have no sin because our Lord has perfectly remitted all our sins. All of our sins were transferred to Him. The sins of Kim Il Sung have been transferred. None of our ancestors have sins.

Neither does Hitler nor any mass murderer have any sin. Jesus has blotted out all the sins of the world including yours and mine. The only difference is that we have received the remission of sin by believing in the Truth. But those mass murderers have not received the remission of sin, because they didn’t believe in the gospel. The same can be said about those who have not been born yet. Thus, we have to serve the gospel for those who do not know this gospel yet.” Then, the righteous will serve the gospel in any condition out of the abundant grace of God. We must know well the characteristics of sheep.

Dear fellow believers, God desires to build His Kingdom on this land throughout the entire world. Servants of God inside His Church are preaching only what God has said. All they talk about is the Word of God, even though they use harsh language sometimes. When I use such an unrefined way of talking, I do it intentionally in order not to bore you down. I don't know how you think of me, but I am a man who can use a refined way of talking very well. At rare occasions, I curse to release the built up stress. At other times, I curse because the other person deserves it. But never do I curse without any apparent reason.

God has selected you and me to be the soldiers of Christ. He has made us into His soldiers. In order so that we can build the Kingdom of God, God gave us the remission of sin and brought us to His Church, nurtured us, had us share fellowship with one another and eat from the Word, and enabled us to share the gospel. That is because we are the soldiers of Christ.

Truly, we the soldiers of Christ have hardship both inwardly and outwardly. Although we try to totally serve the gospel, there are many things that hinder us. When we try to serve the gospel wholeheartedly, a problem pops up here and there. When we try to participate in the ministry of our Church, another problem pops up elsewhere. If we are to devote ourselves completely to the spread of the gospel, there can’t be anything pulling us back. However, this and that problem always abound. Thus, I know well that we suffer in our hearts without being able to do much about it.

## Those Recruited As Soldiers Will Delight Him Who Recruited Them

The Lord says, *"No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier" (2 Timothy 2:4).* Actually, we are unable to follow God, if we try to fulfill all of our needs of the flesh. After examining whether I can solve a particular problem, if I can't, I must entrust this problem to God saying, "God, please take care of it." We should do all we can do. But we must also do our tasks as the soldiers of Christ trusting that God will provide for our needs.

Also, once we find enemy soldiers, we must capture them alive by winning the war. God will then form them according to His will, so we can entrust them to God. God gives strength and provides everything to them both in body and spirit. Family problems that I am unable to solve will be taken care of by God. If you and I were faithful Christians, wouldn't we experience such things? We know well that those who lived as workers of Christ have many personal testimonies like that.

So, don't we have any worry at all? Any problem you have? Unfortunately, we do. I myself have many worries and problems. If I try to solve all of those problems before I serve the gospel, I will never be able to serve the gospel. First, I have problems with my son. If I tried to raise him to my satisfaction before I stand in front of you honorably, I would probably be unable to stand before you no earlier than when I am seventy years old. I have no clue as to when my son will mature and stop worrying me, but since I have entrusted him to God, I believe that God will take care of him.

True soldiers follow the will of the commander who enlisted them as soldiers.

Although difficult and arduous, because our Recruiter will never abandon us, we will come to experience His grace that overflows us entirely. You and I are the eternal soldiers of Christ. Soldiers always prepared for war and perpetually fight in a war. Soldiers of God, who are born again of the water and the Spirit, fight the spiritual war. Soldiers always exist to fight the war. Especially, we believe that soldiers of God exist to fight the good fight of faith (1 Timothy 6:12).

The second prayer subject that our God has given us is *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."* I give thanks for telling us to build the Kingdom of God. "God delivered each and every one of us to unite in the effort to build the Kingdom of God." In our faith, we give thanks to God for giving us this Word and inscribing it in our hearts. God tells us to pray for the establishment of the Kingdom of God once we receive the remission of sin. I urge all of you to remember that our Lord told us to build the Kingdom of God and to live according to the will of God in that regard.

If we set a high goal, we are able to endure the small hardships. On the other hand, if we don't set such a high goal, we may give up even at a small obstacle. Man must have great ambition. People with great ambition gain the ability to self-sustain and to endure hardships, as faith is placed inside their hearts.

We give thanks before our God. How grateful we are that God called us to be as soldiers of Christ! We should sustain our current life style of spreading the gospel to the entire world and pray for it until the Kingdom of God is established. We pray for all the workers and people of God throughout the world. And we pray for those around us. We pray and challenge each other to achieve the goal.

Our prayers are often answered after some time has passed by from the moment the prayers were first said. The answer often comes many times bigger than we expected it to be. That is, prayers are not answered immediately after we have made them. When children beg their parents for some chicken wings, the parent says to pray to God and that He will answer. Then, children close their eyes and pray at that instant for some chicken wings. "God, please send me some chicken wings. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen." And they complain when some chicken wings are not immediately in front of them.

Likewise, we the righteous who have received the remission of sin sometimes act like those children, although we are mature adults. We think that if we pray out of our own needs, that the prayers should be answered immediately. Hence, we have to pray ahead of time. Prayers are like a savings account for the future. We have to pray a lot ahead of time and wait for God to fulfill those prayers. That is a prayer by faith.

And if it pleases God, we have to examine ourselves: We have to examine whether we are truly living as the soldiers of Christ and whether we are acting in a way to please God or not. God has already prepared for 100% of our needs. As He said, *"Ask, and it will be given to you,"* you have to believe that He will most surely give you what you ask of Him. Of course, to those He is pleased with, He will answer their prayers sooner or later. To those He is displeased with, He will give them at His second coming. That is, He won't give them time to enjoy those answers on earth.

We cannot ever give enough thanks to our God. Who are we that God would entrust the construction of the Kingdom of God to us! We just give thanks. I sometimes even wonder whether God did overestimate us. If we look at

each one of us individually, none of us are any more special than ordinary people. It is amazing how God entrusted such a great task to us, when we don't have loyalty and are capricious. Maybe God is using such untalented people as us to reveal His glory. God uses us because we are His own people, because the Holy Spirit is in our hearts, and because we are His own children. When we pray, God answers and we receive His help. God has appointed us this great task because we walk with God no matter what others may say, and because we already belong in the Kingdom of God. God has appointed the task to you and me.

We give thanks before our God. God looks at us with favorable eyes, with pity, and He has mercy on us. Although the Apostle Paul persecuted the Lord Jesus in the past, once he met the Lord on his way to Damascus, he turned his heart toward the Lord. At this, God looked at Paul with favorable eyes and selected him to be His worker. The Apostle Paul was selected as an instrument to spread the gospel of God's righteousness. Jesus Christ has looked at us with favorable eyes as He did with the Apostle Paul and selected us to be His workers in the works of constructing the Kingdom of God.

We thank Jesus Christ for the grace of God. We should live lives that glorify our God. Let's live the remainder of our lives for the purpose of building the Kingdom of God. We should fill our remaining days with that purpose, planning everything, carrying out every work uniting with the Church, and praying for everything as we live our lives as soldiers of Christ by faith. ✉

# “Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread”

**<Matthew 6:11>**
**“Give us this day our daily bread”**

How are you? We give thanks to God for giving us psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to praise God and for selecting us to be the soldiers of Christ. We are preparing our own hymnbook. Twenty-one spiritual songs are made so far, and they are added to the appendix of our hymnbook, *“Praise the Name of Jesus.”*

Although all of our praises sing of the gospel of the water and the Spirit, the more I sing those praises the more I grow fond of them. We give thanks to God for allowing us the righteous to compose and sing these praise songs to ourselves.

How nice would it have been if the gospel of the water and the Spirit were preached from the beginning of Christianity in our country? We may wonder, “What could have happened if the gospel of the water and the Spirit were preached from the first moment Christianity was introduced to our country?” I feel like the whole world would have become an earthly paradise by now, if that had been true. I feel regretful about the past, when I think about that.

Still, I give thanks to God for giving us the gospel of the water and the Spirit and for letting us spread it all over the world even now. Truly, the church of God is very precious. We give thanks for having the church of God, which spreads the gospel of the water and the Spirit. I realize how priceless and precious the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which brings us the remission of sin, is and therefore I am very grateful.

Over 800 people visited our website today. Even at this moment, when we the righteous are gathered for this Training Camp, we are grateful that visitors have increased. Because God delights by the spread of the gospel, many people are visiting our website. And we give thanks to God for being delighted by our efforts to spread the gospel and helping us. Through these works, we the righteous are able to work because God has given us the wisdom and strength. And we found out that God delights to work through us the righteous.

Today's Scripture passage, which we have read together, comes from the Lord's Prayer in Matthew. Today, we are going to focus on the passage that reads *"Give us this day our daily bread"* from the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:11).

## The Daily Bread That We Need

The Lord taught us to pray, *"Give us this day our daily bread."* Actually, the daily meal necessary for us is the faith in the gospel of the remission of sin, which our Lord has accomplished through the baptism He received and the blood of the Cross. Our hearts gain the true bread of life by believing in the gospel Word of the water and the Spirit.

To us who live on this land, the need for daily food is absolute. As long as our bodies are alive and we have been clothed by our spiritual bodies, we are in need of daily bread. Even if we have eaten yesterday, we need to eat again today. We just need to eat continuously. As we have to keep feeding our flesh while we are alive in this world, our souls are also in need of daily spiritual bread.

As we live in this world, we are surrounded by our daily weaknesses and we commit sins day after day. Thus, we need the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which is our daily bread. In other words, we ruminate on the Lord given gospel of the water and the Spirit day by day and gain new strength from it to live by faith.

Therefore, not ruminating daily on the gospel of the water and the Spirit is like not eating any spiritual food at all. Since we have already received the remission of sin, we are prone to be lazy in ruminating on the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Many of the born-again people are prone to look for something new while forgetting about the Word of Truth. Thus, we the righteous need to check daily on the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

So that we can eat our daily bread at any time, God has prepared the gospel of the water and the Spirit at our Churches. Hence, we gain new strength through our Church by meditating and ruminating on the baptism our Lord has received after coming into this world and the blood of the Cross.

## Ruminating about the Gospel of the Water and the Spirit

We just read today’s Scripture passage from Matthew chapter 6, verse 11. Through today’s Scripture passage, I would like to share with you how the gospel and doing the works of God by faith become our daily bread.

First, let’s look at the Word from Matthew chapter 3 verse 13: *“Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.”*

This Word tells us that our Lord tried to receive His baptism from John the Baptist in

order to take away all our sins. Since all of us fall into our weaknesses and cannot help but commit sins everyday, we must not even for a single day cease to meditate on the baptism our Lord received from John the Baptist after He had come to this world. If we ever forget that Jesus received the baptism from John the Baptist in order to take away all our sins, we would indeed be fasting from the bread of life and starve to death. Then, God's works of life in us will cease to take place. Hence, the gospel of the water and the Spirit is life to the believers in Jesus.

Why did Jesus try to receive the baptism from John the Baptist after He had come to this world? We know that He did so to take away all the sins of the entirety of all humanity once and for all. Although our Lord could enjoy all the glories of Heaven as the only begotten Son of God the Father, He gave up the Heavenly throne and came to this world in the lowly flesh of man. It was the will of God for our Lord to come to this world in the flesh and die on the Cross. Thus, Jesus received His baptism from John the Baptist according to the will of His Father.

Our Lord told us to pray, *"Give us this day our daily bread."* This implies that we should eat our daily bread no matter what. As an example, if we wake up in the morning and pray quietly and read the Word of God, we are able to gain our daily bread of life. Although we can gain new strength for a little while by doing thus, that in and of itself is not enough to constitute our daily bread of life. That is because you and I are lacking spiritual nourishment day after day.

Because we are of the flesh, we are bound in the flesh. Because we are prone to be bounded by our thoughts, our minds sometimes fall into our flesh and get discouraged. Therefore, what we need at all times is the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The only thing that can be

the daily bread of life to us, who are weak day after day, is to believe in and ruminate on the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The righteous should not forget the whole process Jesus went through; His receiving the baptism at the Jordan River, dying on the Cross, and being resurrected and ascending into Heaven. Because the gospel of the water and the Spirit becomes our daily bread, we should not cease to believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit even for a single day. By believing and ruminating on this gospel, we gain the bread that revives life in our hearts as well as strength and power. Amazingly, ruminating on the gospel of the water and the Spirit becomes the driving force to live in this world by faith day by day.

Some people say that once you believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit that you will never commit another sin in your life. They say that they have never committed any sin after having received the remission of sin. However, that is not the case. Others say that they have no sin and sin cannot come into being in their hearts even if they have committed sins because they are dead to the Law. Yet, this isn’t true either. These people say stuff without knowing the proper truth.

The Law of God applies to the righteous, as long as we are alive in this world. The Law will last for eternity as long as the gospel Truth of the water and the Spirit exists. We commit sins daily out of our own weaknesses. And we come to know our sins through the Law. However, we are still able to be renewed and gain new strength, because we believe and ruminate on the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We can remain sanctified at all times by ruminating on the gospel of the water and the Spirit as often as we can. We must know the reason why our Lord received His baptism from John the Baptist and

believe in it, saying, “Oh, our Lord was baptized at the Jordan River in order to take away all of our sins.” We gain our daily bread and new strength to live out our faith, whenever we ruminate on the gospel.

As we know, John the Baptist is a descendant of Aaron the High Priest. Our Lord witnessed that John the Baptist was the representative of all humanity (Matthew 11:11). Our Lord also said, *“And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force” (Matthew 11:12)*. In the Old Testament, God has promised, *“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD” (Malachi 4:5)*. And the Lord also witnessed him to be “the Elijah to come” (Matthew 11:13-14).

Did John the Baptist have to come to this world? Yes, he did. Because John the Baptist had the task of transferring all of our sins onto Jesus, he was born six months prior to the birth of Jesus. He first gave the baptism of repentance to the people. “Repent, you sons of serpents! If you do not repent, an axe will hack your feet.” He rebuked the people and tried to turn them back to Jesus. He exhorted and rebuked the people that only Jehovah God is the true God with all other gods being false. He tried to turn them back and lead them to God. People listened to the words John the Baptist spoke and returned to God. Finally, he came to baptize Jesus in order to transfer all the sins of the world onto Jesus.

Jesus went up to John the Baptist and said, “Baptize me.” Thus, Jesus received His baptism and took away all the sins of the world. Put differently, John the Baptist baptized Jesus in order to blot out all the sins of the entirety of humanity.

When I think of this, I am so grateful. The gospel of the water and the Spirit becomes our daily bread. What cleanses the dirt in our hearts daily without a spot are the baptism Jesus received from John the Baptist and His blood of the Cross. We can shake off human greed and sinfulness and live daily as the soldiers of Christ before God with new hearts owing to the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The gospel of the water and the Spirit is the only means by which we can shine the light of life on the dying people. Hence, we must ruminate on the gospel of the water and the Spirit day after day.

Let’s read Matthew chapter 3 verse 14 together: *“And John tried to prevent Him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?’”* When Jesus tried to receive His baptism from John the Baptist at the Jordan River, John the Baptist asked, “When I should be baptized by You, how do You come to me”? At first, John the Baptist refused to baptize Jesus. Still, once he heard that by doing thus all righteousness will be fulfilled, John the Baptist obediently baptized Jesus.

As a matter of fact, John the Baptist was the High Priest on this earth. He was the last High Priest on earth. The Old Testament came to an end by the role of fulfillment John the Baptist played. Since the promised Messiah our Savior Jesus came, John the Baptist had to end the era of the Old Testament by transferring all the sins of the world onto Jesus Christ. The Antitype of the Old Testament came and received the baptism, by which salvation was granted to those who believed in all the promises. Thus, the era of grace began. As Jesus came and received the baptism, the Old Testament times ended and the Kingdom of Christ began.

Although there was no one greater than John the Baptist born of a woman, he was still no

greater than Jesus. Why is that? That is because Jesus is God but John the Baptist is one of His creatures, a mere human being. Jesus Christ was fundamentally different from us, who were created by God the Father.

## It Is Written in Hebrews

If we read the Book of Hebrews, we can find out the superiority of Jesus Christ. The author of the Book of Hebrews testified this fact by comparing Jesus Christ to angels through the Scripture passages from the Old Testament. In short, the Book of Hebrews describes how far superior Jesus Christ is when we compare Him with angels.

Why did the Scripture writer feel the need to write Hebrews and distribute it to the Hebrew people of that time? Furthermore, how important was it to do so? The Hebrew people of that time heard and believed the gospel of the water and the Spirit. They had seen Jesus Christ with their naked eyes and knew and believed why Jesus received His baptism and why Jesus died on the Cross. Yet, they had an oral tradition of worshipping angels that was passed down from their ancestors of the past. Hence, there were those who thought of Jesus as one of the angels or even of less stature than an angel.

Because there were many Israelites who worshipped angels, the servants of God needed to tell them, “Jesus Christ is much superior to the angels. He is the Creator. Although angels were created, Jesus Christ as the Son of God the Father is the Creator who created the universe and everything in it.” Although the identity of the author of Hebrews is not known for sure, theologians think that it is either the Apostle Paul or Barnabas because of the author’s intimate

knowledge of the Old Testament. Anyway, the author of the Book of Hebrews was a servant of God who believed in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

The second chapter of the Book of Hebrews talks about the superiority of Jesus Christ. Although He came in the flesh of man, the Book talks about the superiority of Jesus Christ and His prestige. The third chapter of the Book of Hebrews warns about those who treat the gospel of the water and the Spirit lightly that they would become worshippers of angels and end up receiving the judgment. Such warning continues on to the fourth chapter of the Book of Hebrews. The Book of Hebrews is full of such descriptions.

Yet, some people insist that the Book of Hebrews describes salvation as something attainable by believing only in the blood of Christ. They gather the spiritual blind that neither see nor know anything spiritual and share with them whatever that comes out of their mouths. Even if they say just anything, the blind cannot but believe whatever they hear. However, if we look closely at the Scripture passages in the Book of Hebrews, we can find out that salvation comes not from the blood of Christ alone as these liars insist. Not only the Lord’s Prayer but also the entire Word of the Bible are fundamentally different from what these people insist.

## The Importance of the Role of John the Baptist

People ignore the importance fulfilled by the High Priest John the Baptist too much. There are those who say that John the Baptist is a failure even among the Evangelicals.

John the Baptist was imprisoned. When King Herod committed a hideous sin by taking his sister in law as his wife, John the Baptist rebuked him and was imprisoned for it. So, the disciples of John the Baptist came to visit him at the prison. Then, John the Baptist asked them. "Is what I hear true? People say that Jesus has opened the eyes of the blind and healed the sick. Is He the promised One? You should go to Him and ask for yourselves." Whether Jesus was the promised Messiah who was to come, John the Baptist told his disciples to go to Jesus and to find out. So, his disciples came to Jesus and asked, *"Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" (Matthew 11:3)* Hence, some people say that John the Baptist failed because he did not recognize Jesus and was killed for opposing King Herod.

However, that is not what the Bible says. John the Baptist said, *"He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30).* As a matter of fact, John the Baptist said that he should disappear from the face of the earth once Jesus comes to this world and takes away all the sins of the world through His baptism so that people can follow Jesus and receive the remission of sin. John the Baptist responded thus to his disciples not because he did not recognize Jesus but because his disciples regarded him higher than they did Jesus.

John the Baptist was aware of the fact that Jesus was the Messiah from the moment he gave Jesus the baptism at the Jordan River. Already in the first chapter of John, John the Baptist said, *"I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God" (John 1:33-34).* John the Baptist knew all about who Jesus was. Hence, John the Baptist

said in Matthew chapter 3, *"I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"*

Because those who are not born again of water and the Spirit do not have the Holy Spirit, they do not know the Word correctly. They just fit the pieces of the Bible together at their own discretion and believe in whatever they want. However, because we the righteous who have received the remission of sin by the water and the Spirit have the Holy Spirit in our hearts, we know and believe in the Word of God correctly. Jesus came to John the Baptist and told him, "Baptize me." At this, John the Baptist replied, *"I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"* We can know and believe clearly in why such conversation took place in that situation.

Although John the Baptist might be a servant of God born into the family of the High Priests on this land who himself had to take the role of the High Priest, he couldn't be higher than the Messiah, who is God. Hence, when the promised Messiah Jesus Christ came to him in the flesh of man and said bending down before him, "Baptize me. Complete your grave task by transferring all the sins of the world onto Me," John the Baptist replied "How could I dare baptize You? I should receive baptism from You." Because John the Baptist knew how exalted Jesus Christ really was, he reacted with such humility.

Jesus did not try to receive His baptism from John the Baptist because He was humble. Likewise, John the Baptist did not refuse to baptize Jesus saying, "Why do You come to be baptized by me, when I should be baptized by You," because he was humble. Yet, ignorant people say that Jesus received the baptism from John the Baptist because He was humble or that it was because John the Baptist was very polite, when they honor John the Baptist. John the

Baptist merely recognized and honored Him whom he should have recognized and honored. Moreover, he said those things because he listened to the words of Jesus and recognized correctly that the Lord as Savior had come.

Hence, we respect John the Baptist as the servant of God. John the Baptist was not just any servant, but the greatest servant of God, even greater than Moses, and the greatest person among those born of women.

You probably know about Moses very well. John the Baptist is greater than Moses who had talked with God face to face; and he is greater than the Prophet Isaiah, too. Most Christians think greatly of Moses and not much of John the Baptist, but that is not correct. Jesus said it so Himself: "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist. And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come. He will go and turn many people back to Me. He will have the lost souls turn back. Furthermore, those who do not believe in what he witnesses will receive the judgment of fire in the last days."

God promised to the entire humanity, including you and me, by His Word that He will send Jesus Christ, and He fulfilled His promise as our Lord and Savior. Jesus was not a tyrant, nor was he impolite. He wasn't a great teacher of morality but was the holy almighty God, perfect in every way.

## "It Is Proper to Fulfill All Righteousness by Doing Thus Together"

Matthew 3:15 says, *"But Jesus answered and said to him, 'Permit it to be so now, for thus it is*

*fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.’ Then he allowed Him.”*

Jesus took away all the sins of every person by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist. Hence, Jesus said, *“Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”* Because Jesus Christ came to this world as the sacrificial Lamb who would blot out all the sins of this world, Jesus Christ took away all of our sins to blot them out. That is why Jesus spoke thus to John the Baptist.

Our Lord came to this world and received His baptism from John the Baptist. At this, John the Baptist permitted it to be so. John the Baptist gave the baptism to Jesus by laying his hands on His head, and Jesus received His baptism from the representative of the entire humanity, that is, John the Baptist.

We endlessly commit sins in this world, while our Lord came to this world and received the baptism from John the Baptist to take away all of our sins. As we get full when we eat, we gain new strength by meditating and ruminating on this amazing fact. When we acknowledge before God that we are weak and evil and when we believe in the fact that our Lord took away all of our sins through His baptism He received, our hearts are cleansed and become sanctified by meditating on the gospel Truth. When we believe that Jesus has taken away all the sins we commit daily by receiving His baptism, all our sins are indeed transferred onto Jesus Christ and our hearts receive the perfect remission of sin. Moreover, we become sacred people before God who can live a life without any shame. We who have received the remission of sin by the water and the Spirit have become the sacred children of God who can preach His righteousness all over the world.

God has become our bread of life. Jesus, who has become our daily bread, is the very bread of life as well as the living water. What Jesus Christ did in His 33 year life in this world constituted the bread of life and the daily bread to all of us. Whoever confirms, believes in, and ruminates what Jesus Christ has done will gain new strength at any time in his heart. Those who have gained new bread through their faith are satisfied day after day both in body and spirit.

Because Jesus received His baptism from John the Baptist, the representative of all humanity, all the sins you and I commit till the last days of our lives have already been transferred onto Jesus once and for all. Therefore, all of our sins were washed away through His baptism. This is a very obvious Truth and an absolutely necessary Truth. Yet, people have treated this Truth too lightly for so long. Although they remembered everything else, they ignored the baptism Jesus received and went looking for something else in the Bible. Try as hard as you can to look for something else. You will find nothing and come to a pointless conclusion that the Word of Jesus is mysterious and, hence, incomprehensible. Only when we believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and look for the Truth of the Bible by making this genuine gospel the measuring stick, we can find that every Word of God fits in with each other.

## The Reason Jesus Received His Baptism

Matthew 3:16 states, *"When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him."*

The heavens were opened when our Lord came out of the water, after He had received His baptism. And the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove. Christians of this world are unaware of this and try to discriminate toward us as a sect of baptism or worse as a denomination created by heretics, when we try to tell them about the importance of the baptism Jesus received. There are so many people who do not know that believing without knowing Jesus’ baptism through which all their sins were transferred is wrong. They are foolish people who think that we are spreading a different gospel because we are preaching the Truth of Jesus’ baptism. Look at the above passage: Concrete evidence lies in the Word that the heavens were opened up and the Holy Spirit like a dove descended on Jesus, when He came out of the water after receiving the baptism.

The will of God could not be fulfilled without the baptism of Jesus. Especially, therefore, we can receive the remission of sin by believing in this Word without going as far into the Books of John or Romans. If we had comprehended just this single verse that God was pleased to see Jesus receive the baptism to fulfill all righteousness and thus He sent the Holy Spirit, we would be able to escape from all of our sins and fulfill all righteousness in our hearts.

That our Lord came to this world and received His baptism signifies that all the sins of the entire humanity were transferred onto Him once and for all. And because all the sins were transferred onto Jesus, He took those sins onto the Cross, where He died. That Jesus received His baptism and came out of the water signifies three facts: First, that Jesus took away all our sins. Second, that He died on the Cross shedding His blood. And third, that He was resurrected from the dead.

Moreover, He who completed this was of the Holy Trinity. It was God the Holy Trinity who had Jesus Christ come into this world and receive His baptism from John the Baptist, die on the Cross, and be resurrected from the dead to deliver all of us from all of our sins. God the Father, His Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, these three Persons agreed to deliver us from all our sins and accomplished this amazing salvation.

Therefore, there can’t be a gospel that insists Jesus died on the Cross covering our sins with blood unless He has been previously baptized in water. Nether can there be a gospel that insists that Jesus received the baptism but did not die on the Cross. We cannot insist that Jesus received the baptism out of His humility. Nor can we omit His baptism from the gospel nor emphasize the blood of the Cross standing alone. Also, defiling the holiness of Jesus by insisting that Jesus was a mere human is bad faith as well.

Because Jesus was fundamentally God, He was able to take all our sins away when He received His baptism from John the Baptist. Jesus died on the Cross taking away all of our sins away that He had received through His baptism. Jesus was able to take away all of our sins by receiving His baptism, to shed His blood on the Cross bearing all the sins of the world, to say that He has completed all righteousness, and to be resurrected from the dead because He was the Holy God.

Also, God the Father worked everything out in unison with His Son and the Holy Spirit. He has fulfilled everything in accordance with the plan of God in order to make us into the people of God, to deliver us from all of our sins, to have us participate in the sacred Kingdom of God, and to adopt us as the children of God. To illustrate this

point most concretely, Jesus as the representative of Heaven received His baptism from the representative of earth, died on the Cross, and was resurrected on the third day.

When I look at the saints, the servants of God, or myself, I can see that all of us are so very weak. We can see that we commit sins everyday. When we fall into our own thoughts, we get increasingly indecent.

There is a hymn that goes, “Many years I squandered, filled by sin and sorrow,

Hopelessly I wandered counting not the cost.

But my sins He pardoned, gave me His salvation,

Now I have been adopted, I no more am lost.

O the love of God, boundless love of God

Freely giving pardon through the Savior’s blood,

O the love of God, boundless love of God

Let us lift our voices praising Him above.”

How can those who remain sinners despite of their faith in Jesus sing this hymn with such enthusiasm? They do not boast about the love and merit of Jesus but their sinfulness. They enthusiastically praise this hymn as if they are proud that they have sins in their hearts. As if their conscience were dazed and confused, they sing this hymn with such confidence despite all of their sins. The merit of Jesus was remitting all of our sins by the water and the blood. Yet while they profess only the blood of Jesus, they sing with such confidence as if it is right that they have sins although they believe in Jesus. Those who know nothing about the gospel of the water and the Spirit are seduced by such enthusiasm. Even fake jewels shine brighter than real ones. Less than 100% gold shines brighter than pure gold. Plastic food models look tastier than real food. Like this, fakes abound in this world, even in the realm of faith.

## We Are Able to Become Righteous Although We Are Weak Day after Day

How can we become righteous, if we commit sins on a daily basis? Jesus took away all of our sins by receiving His baptism. He paid the price of death since the wages of sin is death by bearing all the sins of the world onto the Cross, where He was nailed and shed His blood. By being resurrected from the dead, He gave us the hope of resurrection. He gave us the faith to believe that Jesus is the true God. Like this, we are able to become righteous because He gave us the gospel of the water and the Spirit, through which we can completely be born again.

Jesus delivered us by substituting His life for the price of our sins in our place. That is, Jesus ransomed us with His own life and bought us. That is how we were delivered. We didn’t have to die for our sins on the Cross or pay the price for our sins because Jesus Christ came to this world for us taking all of our sins away through His baptism and ransoming the price of our sins on the Cross. We have become sinless because Jesus was resurrected from the dead to bring us back to life after He had taken away all of our sins and paid the ransom for those sins. Our Lord has become our perfect Savior. We have become sinless by believing in Him. That is the justice of God that deserves our praises.

As a matter of fact, you and I are mere clay. To be more precise, we were made out of dust. We return to dust once we die. You probably had fasted from both food and water in order to pray fervently before. At those instances, we can feel our bodies being dehydrated. Because 70% of our bodies consist of water, our lives are threatened when an amount of water escapes

from our bodies. We may be able to go without food for days, but we cannot do the same without water. Once all the water is dried up from our bodies, we are nothing but a handful of dust. We were made from dust, but we became the living souls when God breathed into our nostrils the breath of life.

There is a lot of talk and discussions about spirituality in today's Christianity. Just a little while ago, I watched a TV discussion on spirituality among the host, two theologians with Ph.D.s, and some other people. "Spirituality is spirituality." That was their final conclusion. When asked, "In conclusion, could you define Spirituality in one word?" after 45 minutes of discussion, none of the participants, not even the theologians, were able to answer. That's right. They are unable to definitely state what spirituality is.

Although their discussion lasted for 45 minutes, they couldn't come to a conclusion. And one of the theologians said, "In Genesis, it is written, *'The LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.'* Because we do not know the secret behind this breath of life that came into the nostrils, we are unable to conclude about spirituality." They are not born again yet. Regardless of an excellent education at the most prestigious theological institution, they are unable to know about spirituality because they do not have the Holy Spirit in their hearts. "The theological meaning of the word *spirituality* is 'the quality or state of being spiritual.' Of course, the word *spirituality* has many more meanings. We tend to promote our spirituality by attending morning prayers, offering much money, evangelizing well, doing good deeds, and not committing any sin as our

ancestors of faith did. We can call this *spirituality*.” That is the conclusion they came to at the end.

Looking at this, we can see that Christianity has been corrupted to a large extent. And I truly realized that it is time for us the righteous to appear on the scene and share the Word of Truth. Only the gospel of the water and the Spirit can give definite answers to what spirituality is, what it means to be human, why people need to receive the remission of sin, and why we need to revive our spiritualities in the first place. And we who are born again by the water and the Spirit should pass on these answers.

Now, it is time for us the righteous to appear on the scene and tell them about the gospel of the water and the Spirit while at the same time explaining the fundamental meanings of spirituality. “We should start by telling them that we have grown apart from God because of our sins. The divine nature and spirit we once possessed in our hearts were cut off from God because of our sins. We have to tell them that we are able to recover these by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit through Jesus Christ. When we believe in this gospel and receive the remission of sin, we become truly spiritual beings as well as the children of God. That is the revival of spirituality.” If we develop this truth in greater detail, we can provide clear answers to those who are lost because of their ignorance of spirituality. In another word, the revival of spirituality is the recovery of the divine nature in our hearts that grew apart from God because of our sins by believing in the baptism Jesus received and His blood.

Because we are so very weak, we commit numerous sins while living in this world. We grew apart from God because of our sins. Unless we can completely blot out all those sins, we can

never live spiritually again but live our lives bound to the weaknesses of our flesh. Hence, we have to believe in the baptism Jesus received, which contains all things necessary to the revival of our spiritualities; Inside the baptism are the facts that Jesus took away all of our sins by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist, that He died on the Cross shedding His blood, that He was resurrected from the dead, and that Jesus Christ is the Son of God as well as our own God. Inside the baptism, there is everything that is essential to our souls.

Hence, we have to confirm this gospel once again, from which we can eat our spiritual bread day after day. Even when an uneasy conscience grows in our hearts because of faults and sins that we commit daily out of our weaknesses, we are able to become whole in our hearts once again by confirming the gospel. When our thoughts and hearts are tainted by our weaknesses in our lives, our conviction that our Lord has made us complete will be confirmed more concretely in our hearts, only if we remember the baptism our Lord received from John the Baptist, what He said while He received the baptism, what happened when He came out of the water, and what the Holy Ghost testified. Through these, our souls will be filled and we will gain new strength enough to live out our faith. By doing so, we are able to live as soldiers of Christ while on this earth.

We have to thank for this gospel of the water and the Spirit and eat our daily bread day after day by ruminating on this gospel on a daily basis. The Lord asked us to pray, *“Give us this day our daily bread” (Matthew 6:11).*

Our daily bread does not lie in a different place. Our Lord spoke of the daily bread as follows. John 4:32 says, *“I have food to eat of which you do not know.”* Following in verse 34,

our Lord says, *"My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work."*

Actually, the soldiers of our Lord are able to comprehend the Word spoken by Jesus Christ. The primary bread we, who have received the remission of sin, need daily is the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Daily bread for us who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which Jesus has accomplished, is the daily ruminating on the gospel of the water and the Spirit. When we gain new strength by eating and confirming the gospel of the water and the Spirit on a daily basis, when we gain our daily bread of life, and when we do the works of God, our souls are taking the necessary daily bread.

The secondary bread we the righteous need is doing the works of our Lord. When Jesus Christ carried out what God the Father wanted to realize in this world through His Son, Jesus Christ said that the work of God becomes His bread. If those who have received the remission of sin don't do the spiritual works, it would be the same as soldiers dying on the battlefield for not fighting the war. When we loose our morale and tension as soldiers and forget that we have come to fight a war, our enemies will invade us and rid us of everything including our own lives. Therefore, because we who have received the remission of sin are the soldiers of God, we have to constantly do the work of God and fight the spiritual war in order to keep our lives.

Thus, doing the works of God and devoting our flesh and soul to the spiritual works are the very bread that keeps us alive day after day. Regardless of the high tech weaponries, if soldiers are unwilling to use them, unwilling to fight, and unwilling to receive training, they would be unable to save themselves in war. Even if the church of God provides the Word of God everyday, a person who is unwilling to take and

receive the Word of God is already dead in reality.

God told the righteous that doing the works of God is their bread. This is actually so. Those who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit have been entrusted a certain part of God’s works. We do our parts in our departments for the work of the gospel. If we didn’t do our jobs, we may be comfortable in our flesh but our hearts will be so uncomfortable and empty that we won’t be able to live. Our hearts will grow poor and destitute causing them to starve to death. The reason we are powerless although we have received the remission of sin is because we haven’t done the work of God. If we do not eat the bread, we cannot but be powerless: If we are not provided our spiritual bread because we haven’t done any spiritual work, we will lose our powers out of hunger. Even if I had not told you this, I am sure that you know well about this already. God gives us new strength when we do the work of God. When we don’t do the work of God, we lose our powers. This is true not only for our inner self but also for our outer self as well. If we have no power, it is because we are unaware of the fact that we have become soldiers.

What we need is the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We have to confirm and ruminate on the gospel of the water and the Spirit daily. We have to daily admit the sins that we commit everyday, confirm once again that our Lord has blotted out all of those sins, and give thanks to receive new strength in us.

## Works of God Are Essential Nourishments to Promote the Strong Faith of His Workers

If the righteous don’t do the work of God, and if the soldiers of Heaven only do the work of this world without doing the work of God at all, they will die out of starvation: Being unable to do anything, they will lose all their powers and end up dying. That is so because they cannot receive new strength. Like this, when we do the work entrusted to us by our Lord, this in and of itself becomes our strength. That becomes the necessary daily bread for us. Like this, we have to eat our daily bread by doing the work of God everyday.

We can compare this to the muscles of our bodies. We must do exercise to gain muscles and keep exercising if we want to keep those solid muscles. If we get too giddy when we gained rock-solid muscles and stop exercising, our muscles will soon deteriorate. Muscles that deteriorate become harmful fat and cause all sorts of illnesses. Hence, we must keep exercising to strengthen our muscles. We have to strengthen our legs and backs to hold up to all the pressures so that we don’t get problems in our legs or backs.

That implies that those who have just become the children of God by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit must ruminate on the gospel daily and do the work of God. Since we have been sanctified and received the Holy Spirit in our hearts by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, we have to eat our daily bread each day in order to keep those things intact. When we do the work of God, we gain new strength by eating our daily bread. We should remember that doing the work of God

gives us new strength. Of course, I am sure that all of you know this already and believe so.

Our Lord says in Matthew 5:6, *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled."* The soldiers of our Lord are to hunger and thirst for righteousness. If we don't do the work of God for a single day or even for a single hour, we commit sins only doing the work of the flesh and starve. To fulfill the will of God in this world and to fill our bellies by doing the work of God, we the righteous must do the work of righteousness.

Therefore, the Lord says, *"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).* Dear fellow believers, God told us to first seek His Kingdom and His righteousness. We who have become the soldiers of Christ must ruminate on the gospel on a daily basis. We have to bring our weaknesses and sins before Him. We have to acknowledge that we have done wrong in certain ways and take our sins to the Jordan River and remember that our Lord took away even these sins through His baptism.

The Word of God continuously speaks of this gospel Word of the water and the Spirit because this gospel is Truth and because our Lord came to this world to complete this gospel. We can meet this gospel of the water and the Spirit from any part of the Bible.

I am not speaking about this as it comes up arbitrarily in my mind. You should not interpret the Word of God by your own thoughts either. We shouldn't interpret the Bible passage *"Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name"* as follows: "This means that our Lord told us to live holy lives and that we should live holy lives because we are the righteous." This is just speaking on our own regard without considering the will of God. And there is no way that our

own words and not the Word of God will make any sense to the righteous. Who among the righteous would listen to mere human thoughts? The righteous can discern mere words of humans from God’s Word without fail.

Our Lord taught us in the Lord’s Prayer to pray, “Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.” Then, does this mean that we should live holy lives? That doesn’t mean that we should live holy lives without committing any sin but that we should live our lives as priests spreading the gospel of the water and the Spirit according to the Word of God. Our Lord who knows us so well would not tell us to live without committing any sin because we cannot but show our weaknesses everyday in our lives. Our Lord definitely tells us what we need to know and gives us the strength to live thus if we only believe in His Word. We need to know that He has completed all His righteousness so that we can live our lives by faith.

However, because many people read the Bible without first knowing the gospel of the water and the Spirit, they don’t comprehend the true intention of God and try to understand the Bible quite literally. Because they are told to pray, *“Hallowed be Your name,”* they think that they should not embrace evil thoughts and must behave virtuously. However, you should know well that knowing and believing like so is to misunderstand and have bad faith before God.

God created us, and there is no way He does not know us through and through. Jesus Christ is our Creator and Savior. Then, do you think that He would have spoken thus without knowing our weaknesses of the flesh? Of course, not! There is nothing Jesus, our Creator and Savior, does not know about us. He knows everything. It is written in Psalm 139:1-5,

*“O LORD, You have searched me and known me.*
*You know my sitting down and my rising up;*
*You understand my thought afar off.*
*You comprehend my path and my lying down,*
*And are acquainted with all my ways.*
*For there is not a word on my tongue,*
*But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.*
*You have hedged me behind and before,*
*And laid Your hand upon me.”*

Our Lord knows everything about us. He knows about us from our cradles to our graves. He knows all about all of our ancestors as well as our descendants. Do you understand? Even when we were unaware of ourselves, our Lord knew about us.

The passage *“Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name”* means “live out your faith so that the name of our Father is not disgraced.” He did not demand perfect lives from us but told us to receive the perfect remission of sin in our hearts and to live as workers of the good works of God through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which is the true gospel. That means that we should become the soldiers of Christ by faith. That means that we should eat our daily bread by faith.

God has already given us all the bread that we need. Only when we live by faith can we take that daily bread. He has already given us all the heavenly blessings. When we the righteous who have the born again hearts live out our faith inside the Church, we will eat our daily bread on a daily basis.

There are differences between people when they are to eat the Word. Some people are too lazy too eat. Some people don’t have a balanced diet saying, “This Word applies to that person and only that Word fits perfectly to me.” Yet, others submit themselves before God and take

every Word by stating, “Every Word was spoken directly to me.” Those who are too lazy to eat or have an unbalanced diet will lose their strength although they are working. And eventually they will die by being reduced to mere skeletons and by losing all vitality.

Dear fellow believers, regardless of their age and gender, many people are into dieting these days. We should diet in the flesh; but we should not diet spiritually in order for us not to die of spiritual malnutrition. You probably know very well that even the diets of the flesh can be deadly especially when they are used as an extreme remedy. If we want to lose weight, we shouldn’t just diet but also exercise. An appropriate amount of exercise is good in many aspects.

Regardless of what we do with our flesh, what is important is that we should never diet spiritually. Yet, there are those who diet not only in their flesh but also spiritually. “That’s enough. Stop talking to me. I said enough.” Those who speak thusly while covering their ears and refusing to have fellowship with the Word and to do the work of God will lose all of their strength. “When will our Lord return? I wish He would come quickly.” That is all they think about. They do not expect the return of our Lord from true faith but they hope so because waiting any longer will drain the last drop of strength from their souls.

Dear fellow believers, those who do not diet spiritually but eat well can care less about the timing of our Lord’s return. They are always full of spiritual strength, and all they want to do is to do the work of our Lord and to fight spiritually. Those who say, “When is our Lord coming? I am too tired. Stop preaching at me. I am already exhausted without it,” are the ones who are dieting spiritually. Those who think ceaselessly, “With whom should I share the gospel? How

would God save that person," are the ones who have enthusiasm about spiritual matters and are eating well as well as growing well.

The Lord says, *"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."* A life that reveals the righteousness of God, a life that spreads God's righteous gospel of the water and the Spirit, a life that spreads the gospel and eats well the daily bread, these are the lives that seek the Kingdom of God and seek His righteousness. God said that this is the very daily bread for us.

We have to eat the daily bread on a daily basis. We have to ruminate on the gospel everyday and turn our hearts toward our Lord by doing the work of the gospel everyday. Also, the more our faith grows, we should not just ruminate on the gospel but also pray for a heart that can carry out the greater things by seeing what God has done with our eyes and believing in Him our hearts.

Because we still have our bodies of weak flesh, we are prone to fall into our weaknesses. Sometimes we get frustrated and fall into severe temptations. When we fall into such depression, we can renew our depressed hearts through the prayers of our hearts. Because God already knew what kind of creatures we were, our Lord came to this world, received His baptism, died on the Cross, and was resurrected from the dead. He has done all three of them so that we can start anew at the beginning of each new day. And because He sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts, we have really become the people of God.

We have to receive the remission of sin, confirm the gospel daily, and do the work that God delights in. We should not do this by ourselves but united with the Church as well as the other soldiers of Christ, just the way that

pleases our God. No matter how small it is, we should unite in our works. That will give us strength. Just as we gain strength by eating our meals, we will gain strength by doing God’s work. Believe that it becomes the daily bread to you.

For that reason, we work endlessly. The church of God is as small as a mustard seed, but it is working towards the entire world. We are spreading the Truth to everyone in this world in every language of the world by translating the books that contain Gods gospel of the water and the Spirit. We publish books in every language possible so that whoever that wants to receive the remission of sin in his heart can meet the gospel. There may be people complaining about our zeal to publish books; they tell us to stop now. I believe that everyone would now agree that we a small number of soldiers were able to share the gospel because of the books.

Dear fellow believers, there is a lot of work for all of us. How can a soldier of Christ slack from work and play? How can we do anything else when there is so much work of God to do? A soldier cannot forget his duty and do something else. Does it make any sense that a soldier would take time off, if he knew that the enemy is going to invade now? The Lord said, *“And that servant who knew his master’s will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes” (Luke 12:47)*. Even if it is not the sin of blaspheming of the Holy Spirit, it must be a grave sin that will bring many stripes. Their sins are so great that they should forever live in poverty and destitution. These are such great sins that would unclothe them and starve them both spiritually as well as in their flesh.

Thus, we the workers are praying, *“Give us this day our daily bread.”* By gaining strength

through eating our daily bread in our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, we are able to clean out the filth that enters our hearts just like we clean up our houses. We gain new strength by doing the work of God through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We are able to do the work of God all day long because we eat our daily bread on a daily basis. The more we do the work of God, the more strength we are able to gain. By this amazing fact, we are able to know that we really are doing the work of God.

Dear fellow believers, if you truly have the Holy Spirit in your hearts, you come to devote your lives to the work of God. As it is written, *“Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up” (John 2:17),* we have to follow the Lord’s example to live only for the will of God the Father. Jesus Christ, who gladly submitted Himself to the fulfillment of the will of God, received His baptism, shouted the gospel of the water and the Spirit for 3 years, died on the Cross, and fulfilled the righteous work of God although He knew He would die for it. Thus, He became a model for us to follow His perfect example. Do you understand?

From now on, those of you who feel weak should realize your malnutrition is because of your skipping the daily bread. If you feel weak although the table is always set, that is because you haven’t eaten your meal. If you feel weak although you have eaten your meal, it is because your body fat has increased, while you haven’t worked. You feel tired because of the additional weight you have put on. The conclusion is quite simple. You cannot but be feeble without the spiritual power if you haven’t inscribed the Word of God in your heart, although the Word of God is abundantly present before you. Moreover, you would not only be feeble but also feel tired because of the additional weight, if you haven’t

actually acted on your faith, although you have put the Word of God in your heart. If we have eaten the Word of God, we must also practice it so that it becomes as a rock-solid muscle in our bodies. If we have believed and inscribed the Word of God in our hearts, we have to do the work of God so that it really becomes our own strong faith. Those who have a healthy and strong faith in anyone’s eyes know how to act as much as they believe.

We face a lot of hardships as we live in this world. Sometimes, we may be drained out of all strength. Sometimes, we may find our lives too arduous. At other times, we may feel quite healthy and happy with pleasant hearts. If there is a saint who has been born again through his faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and if he is now without strength because he has not lived by faith so far, make him just do the work of God without even having fellowship with him. If he does the work of God, even if it is just a small task, you will see his soul revive by gaining new revitalized strength.

We have to inscribe the Word of God in our hearts on a daily basis. We have to make our daily bread by doing the work of God. And we have to keep the holiness of God in our hearts by doing so. We give thanks for the grace of God that provided us our daily bread. ✉

# Forgive Each Other's Weaknesses

**<Matthew 6:12>**
**"And forgive us our debts,**
**As we forgive our debtors"**

How are you? We just enjoyed watching a special performance of the youth association. Didn't we have a good time? Brother Jinho Hong is pretty tall, but he stretched himself even further to do his squid dance. You wouldn't know how much I laughed observing that dance. Truly, our brothers can dance much better than I ever did when I was still a bachelor. Our sisters said that our young brothers are brave.

This church of God is wonderful no matter what we do in it. It is even greater when we sing the praises we have composed and written the lyrics by ourselves. The church of God is so very beautiful and glorious. Don't you love the church of God? Of course, you do. And if God permits, I believe that we will write even better praise songs. If any of you have good lyrics or songs for praise, please submit them to our senior Pastors. Then, we will make praise songs out of them and sing them together. God will receive great glory through the praises of the born again righteous. When our praise songbook gets too thick, let's publish a second volume. Right now, we have 21 new songs in it. I would like to see about 50 new songs at our next Discipleship Training Camp. Am I asking for too much? If not, I would like to praise God with about 15 new songs each year.

In this year's Summer Discipleship Training Camp, we are studying about the Lord's Prayer together. Today, we will focus on the Word from

Matthew chapter 6, verse 12, which says, *"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors."*

If we understand the Word of God only literally, that will be our own ruin. That is because God hid deeper divine meanings in the written Word. Every Word of God is written in letters so that anyone can read it, but to correctly understand it we need to believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which is the key to opening and understanding the Word. Only those who possess this genuine gospel can share the meaning of the Lord's Prayer correctly by interpreting it properly.

We are studying the Lord's Prayer, which our Lord has taught us. When we look at the Lord' Prayer in its literal meaning, we may feel the urge to do something. Hence, when we read today's Scripture passage, *"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors,"* we feel the need to continuously receive the remission of our sins by doing something. Do we really need to continuously receive the remission of our sins? Not at all! True faith is not coming from a mere feeling. If we consider the feelings of our hearts as our true faith, we easily misunderstand and misinterpret the Word of God.

We should know first that the phrase *"And forgive us our debts"* from today's Scripture passage does not mean that those who have received the remission of sin in their faith should wash their sins away again. This passage is one of the most misunderstood passages by many people. "If our Lord has really blotted out all our sins, why did our Lord teach in the Lord's Prayer that we should pray for the forgiveness of our sins?" Like this, many people have misunderstand and wrongly believed in this part of the Lord's Prayer. Because of such misunderstandings, confusion abounds to almost every Christian.

Does the Word from verse 12 really tell us that we need to continuously receive the remission of our personal sins? No. We can ask ourselves: "It seems that God tells us to pray daily for the forgiveness of our sins. Then, how could we still have sins, if all our sins were taken care of once and for all by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit? Our Lord Himself has taught us the Lord's Prayer. Are there some differences between the Lord's Prayer and the gospel of the water and the Spirit?"

Most Christians insist that the sins they commit daily should be washed away through daily prayers of repentance. However, it is not so. Because our Lord has remitted all the sins of the world once and for all by receiving His baptism of the water and shedding His blood on the Cross, believers in this gospel have no sin.

Yet, if we misunderstand the Lord's Prayer, we fall into great confusion again. The faith of those who have received the remission of sin is crumpled at once by those who wrongly believe in the Word of God out of their misunderstandings of it not knowing the gospel of the water and the Spirit. They say that our original sin was remitted through our faith but that our personal sins still remain. However, such is a great error out of their fallacious faith. Because they tried to comprehend the Word of the Bible without the gospel Word of the water and the Spirit, they have fallen into great errors and come to have a wrong faith.

## Although We Are All Weak, We Should Forgive Each Other's Faults within the Faith in the Gospel of the Water and the Spirit

We cannot help but commit sins daily, while we live in this world. Hence, it is right for us to forgive each other's wrongdoings. We live committing personal sins. That is a fact. Yet, we have to wash away all our personal sins we commit daily through our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. In another word, the solution to all our problems of sin and the forgiveness of each other's wrongdoings is in the gospel Truth of the water and the Spirit. The phrase *"As we forgive our debtors"* is telling us to forgive each other's faults that are committed out of their weaknesses.

Every Word in the Bible presupposes the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The phrase *"As we forgive our debtors"* also means that we have to forgive each other's faults with the heart of generosity of the born again who have received the unconditional remission of sin through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Hence, we are able to resolve the problems of sin only through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Our Lord is telling us about this part. Only those who have experienced unconditional love of the Lord, that is, who have received the remission of all their sins that was given freely by our Lord are able to show mercy to the others who have committed sins against them. Hence, our Lord told the righteous about ethical living in faith. Dear fellow believers, do you understand this?

God has spoken the Truth: "If you have received the grace of the remission of all your sin at once, you also have to be able to forgive those

who have sinned against you. If you who have received the grace of the remission of sin from Me are unable to forgive those who have sinned against you, you would be disgracing My name. If you are unable to forgive each other when I have already blotted out all of your sins, I will not remit your sins either."

Our Lord has spoken to us along this line. Hence, the Word is telling us that we should forgive each other of the wrongdoings that we cause against each other. This Word is given to the born-again saints who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit in order for them to apply it in their true ethical lives. That is, it was a lesson for us to forgive each other's personal wrongdoings as long as it does not constitute the sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit. Although we cannot forgive those who interfere and corrupt the gospel of the water and the Spirit, we must forgive each other's wrongdoings in our ethical lives as saints.

Truly, there are those in this world who have received the remission of sin at once by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Our Lord has really remitted all of their sins through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Hence, they have become sinless by their faith in this true gospel. Believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit can approach God with a pure conscience. Hence, they are able to forgive each other's wrongdoings by faith within the gospel of the water and the Spirit. As long as someone among us does not corrupt the unchanging Truth, we are able to forgive each other's wrongdoings. Those who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit have the power to forgive each other's wrongdoings.

Still, there is one unforgivable sin even in the Lord. That is the sin of corrupting the greatest

gift to humanity, which is the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We cannot allow the sin of obstructing the spread of the gospel of the water and the Spirit and the sin of trying to spread a corrupted version of the gospel. As a matter of fact, if you ever forgive such persons who commit sins of blaspheming the Holy Spirit, you would be worse sinners than themselves. And if you are one with such people, you will not be able to avoid the curses of hell. However, if they realize their sins and turn away from their sins and try to believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and spread that gospel, they would still receive the compassion of God.

In the Old Testament times, our Lord allowed for the believers to wash away all of their sins through their faith in the sacrificial system: They transferred their sins onto the sacrifices by laying their hands on the head of the sacrifices and they paid off the wages of their sins by sprinkling the blood of the sacrifices in front of the altar of burnt offering.

In the New Testament times, our Lord came as the sacrificial Lamb that was to take upon Himself all the sins of the world. Through the baptism He received from John the Baptist, our Lord took away all the sins of the world. Furthermore, He went to the Cross and paid the ransom for our lives by shedding His blood. God has allowed us to receive the remission of sin through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. This is the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which blots out all of our sins once and for all. Moreover, this is the power of the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which blots out all of our sins for eternity.. Because we commit wrongdoings against each other, our Lord blotted out our sins by receiving His baptism and shedding His blood on the Cross.

When we try to understand the Word of the

Bible, we have to do so by our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Of course, those who can pray the Lord's Prayer properly are the ones who have placed their faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Thus, when we are willing to learn the lessons of the Lord's Prayer properly, we must first comprehend the gospel of the water and the Spirit. It is impossible to understand the passage *"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors"* without the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

If God had desired to see the righteousness from our flesh, He would have been disappointed. If God had only demanded us our good deeds out of our human nature, we all would have been discouraged. And then our believing hearts that we had before would fade away under the heavy burden of sin. We are unable to do any act of righteousness in our flesh. God does not demand our righteous acts out of our weak flesh.

We rather have to think about and believe in this Truth of the remission of sin, which came by the water and the Spirit. Because God knows all about the weaknesses of our flesh, all He demands is that we believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. God the Father has given us the faith, by which we can give glory to the name of the Father.

## There Are Unforgivable Sins

Still, there are cases where even we the righteous are unable to accept each other. That is because there are those who try to corrupt the God-given gospel that cannot change forever. Even the best of the swords are regarded as no better than a wooden sword by an untrained eye. Likewise, there are those who underestimate and

try to corrupt the God given gospel of the water and the Spirit, whose power is absolute and which we should have absolutely believed in and relied upon.

There may be those who are asking, "Are you saying that there are some people who you are unable to forgive before God"? Yes, there can be some kinds of people whom God Himself does never forgive of their sins. Why are we also unable to forgive those who ignore the eternal gospel and even try to corrupt it? All forgiveness and tolerance depend on our Lord. We cannot forgive people like Jezebel, who controlled her husband Ahab intentionally to lure the people of God into idolatry. Jezebel and Ahab were standing against Elijah, although they knew very well that he was a servant of God. Also, although Jezebel knew that her husband should serve Jehovah God as the king of Israel, she coerced Ahab to serve idols other than Jehovah God.

Among the sins Jezebel committed was the extortion of Naboth's vineyard to turn it into the vegetable garden of her husband. There was a vineyard near by the palace of King Ahab, and he coveted that vineyard. Through unlawful means, Ahab demanded Naboth to give up his vineyard. Naboth, the owner of the vineyard refused to give the inheritance from his forefathers to the king. Because Ahab desired that vineyard so badly, he struggled without even eating his meals. Once Jezebel saw that, she told Ahab that she would get him that vineyard so not to worry. She bought false witnesses against Naboth and had him killed. Then, she took that vineyard and gave it to King Ahab as a present (1 Kings 21:1-16).

The vineyard signifies the church of God in the Bible. Thus, those who turned the church of God inherited from the men of faith into a useless vegetable garden were the ones who

committed the grave sins that stood against God publicly. This was an outright act of hostility against God. Jezebel opposed God without any hesitation to satisfy her own greed. That was an unforgivable sin, unless she turned around and repented truthfully.

As far as we know, all human beings are essentially the same in front of God, having the same human nature. Then, those who think of them as special and superior to others and try to control others are of the kind of Jezebel. A person who thinks, "I should use this person in this way, and I should control that person in that way" is a very wicked person. Is there any wickedness or selfishness in our hearts?

As a matter of fact, the human gene itself is very selfish. Bio-scientists have ascertained that human genes are so selfish that they give selfish orders to various parts of our bodies. As a matter of fact, all cancer diseases are the result of such selfishness of cancer cells. Hence, a life that has not received the remission of sin is very selfish. Also, even if you have received the remission of sin, you cannot but live selfishly if you follow the greed of your flesh. You have to turn away from these kinds of lives. No matter how good a person looks from human perspectives, his life cannot help but be selfish if there were not the Holy Spirit in him. Only the souls of those who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, by which Jesus washed all our sins away, can live a good life through being guided by God. Those who have been doing the good work of God are not affected by their selfish genes because they believe in the powerful gospel of the water and the Spirit and live for that Truth.

However, there are those who still are under the control of selfish genes, even among the born again. They follow their thoughts of the flesh and reject the guidance of God. They seek their own

interests, even using the other saints to such ends. They try to accomplish their will by any means necessary. It would be a grave sin if we tried to raise ourselves and fulfill our own desires without regard to what happens to the good work of God. Then, we have to correct ourselves. Since our Lord has blotted out all other human weaknesses by His baptism and the blood, we could also forgive those sins. However, we cannot forgive those who obstruct the good works of God and try to kill others to seek their own interests of the flesh. We cannot accept them, unless they turn away from their wicked ways from the depth of their hearts. Such wicked hearts not only kill themselves but also lure or kill others to accomplish their goals. Hence, we cannot accept them, unless they repent appropriately. Many people can lose their faith and be led into the ways of damnation by a single wicked person. Just as some Israelites worshipped Baal instead of Jehovah God, we cannot allow people with wicked hearts inside the church of God because they may lead many righteous people into sinfulness.

Human flaws and weaknesses other than these can be forgiven at any time. Although we have not realized our wrongdoings yet, if we realize that we have done wrong in certain ways with the passage of time and turn our hearts around, would not our Lord have taken care of those sins? As long as we don't disturb the gospel of the water and the Spirit, we can be forgiven for our human stupidities, foolishness, and temporary spiritual blindness.

Those who have received complete remission of their sins from the Lord must forgive others for their transgressions that were committed against them. When we have the true faith, we are able to truly forgive each other. We can forgive others from our hearts. Is that true? It is

surely thus. All human sins that were committed from their weakness can be forgiven. There is just one sin that cannot be forgiven, and that is the sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit, which is to corrupt the gospel of the water and the Spirit. For other than this sin, we can forgive whatever is the sin of others, as our Lord has first remitted all of our sins.

Even we who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit still commit personal sins on a daily basis. Hence, dust may settle in our hearts, and they can go astray with wrong thoughts. When your heart comes to face such a situation, you must begin your new lives by believing that even all of these sins have been already washed away completely by the Lord. We are able to become anew and complete day after day by believing in the baptism our Lord received and the blood He shed on the Cross.

Our Lord blotted out all our sins by offering His own life to wash away our sins. It wouldn't make any sense, therefore, if we who have received the remission of sin were unable to forgive each other. Forgiving others for their faults within the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit is a presupposition for the life of the righteous. Hence, we are able to glorify God through the Word of God.

However, sometimes we complain about the sins of others, although our hearts have already forgiven them. That is, our thoughts and actions may not always agree. That is not a problem though. Our Lord will take care of such problems in time through our faith. If we are able to forgive others in our hearts, all is already forgiven. On the other hand, if we are unable to forgive others in our hearts, all is not forgiven.

## This Is the Greatest Sin among All Human Sins

What is the greatest sin among all human sins? That is the sin of corrupting the gospel of the water and the Spirit, that is, the sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit. Some people do commit such a sin without hesitation. Not only do these people commit this sin alone but they also lure others into believing wrongly like them. In order to fulfill their greed of the flesh, they enslave other people.

If a person truly believes in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, that person would not enslave another person to satisfy the greed of his flesh. If a person truly believes in the gospel of the water and the Spirit purely, that person would never be able to do such a thing to the other saints. The hearts of the believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit must stay pure. So, we must quickly realize that our flesh is far from being pure and actually very evil. When we acknowledge our wickedness of the flesh before God and ask for His compassion, our hearts are truly purified. However, if we follow the greed of our flesh, we will become filthy and hideous. We become as Esau, who sold his rights of the firstborn for bread and a stew of lentils. That is the very story of our own selves. Hence, we must quickly acknowledge that we are such beings and surrender ourselves before the church of God to be guided to a good path by our God.

Any talent, power, or even a small source of pride can bring us our spiritual death, if we do not use them for the spread of the gospel. All of our talents that are not used for God are prone to turn wicked and evil. But, there can be people who regard their wickedness, deceitfulness, and evilness as their special rights and something to brag about. Such people are trying to make

subordinates out of naïve fellows and make them work like their slaves. Whether we are humanly talented or untalented can be taken seriously in human perspectives. God does not care about those things but only about the spread of the gospel. God created each human different, but none is more talented than the others from His perspective. In another word, we are all on equal ground. There only exists spiritual order in God's Church for the spread of the gospel. We have to work for the spread of the gospel of the water and the Spirit within this order.

There is no great difference in human talents. Even the least talented is not that different from the most talented. There is no one who is absolutely talented. If a person excels in one area, that person falls behind in another area. If we see a person lack in one area, this means that we just haven't seen the area he excels in. That is, no one is talented in every possible way, just as no one is untalented in every possible way. Hence, if anyone wants to see the merits and talents of another person, that person will come to see too many merits and precious talents. Especially, if we look at people in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, everyone will appear even more precious.

We who were born again of the water and the Spirit must be able to respect and see the preciousness of the servants of God, who serve the gospel with the lowliest of hearts. When we see things from a broader perspective, we gain the heart to forgive, accept, and care for the coworkers God gave us. This is a humble heart.

Many foreigners ask the most questions about the Lord's Prayer, after they have believed in the gospel of the water and the Spirit: "The Lord's Prayer taught us to pray, *'And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.'* This Word comes from the prayer our Lord taught us. Our

Lord taught us to keep praying this prayer. So how do I understand this Word? Although we believe that the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the real Truth, we cannot comprehend why we should pray everyday for the forgiveness of our sins when we believe all our sins have been remitted by Jesus' baptism and His blood at the Cross. So what is wrong with this?"

There have been so many who asked me such questions. Hence, I felt the need to go verse by verse and interpret the meaning of the Lord's Prayer in detail. This lesson is not for foreign coworkers only. I felt the need for our domestic coworkers to know about the Lord's Prayer. Also, I had to cover the Lord's Prayer, since all of our saints are probably curious about it as well. Thus, we are sharing the Word from the Lord's Prayer as well as the grace that overflows from it during this Summer Camp.

I believe that our Lord has us who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit to forgive each other's faults and shortcomings in our lives. Those who have received the remission of all their sins have the power to forgive the wrongdoings of others. Hence, I am speaking boldly to both our coworkers who are abroad and in our country: *"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors."* This Word does not tell us to continuously receive the remission of sin, but that the righteous who are born again of water and the Spirit should forgive each other, for they have already received the unconditional forgiveness of sins from God. God is telling us that we should also forgive each other's faults.

Once, Peter came to the Lord Jesus and asked, *"Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"* Then, Jesus said to him, *"I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven."* And He told his disciples "the parable of the

unforgiving servant" (Mathew 18:21-35).

The story goes like this: There was a person who owed so much debt to his master that he was unable to pay his master that amount of money. He was suffering from a debt, which he wouldn't be able to pay off through in his entire lifetime. So he went to his master and begged him to cancel his debts. His master who had lent him the money realized that his servant was unable to pay him back. Knowing that he was unable to receive any money from him, the master thought that it would be better to show compassion and write off his debts. Then, the servant will truly be glad and feel grateful, and the master would feel good about saving this person that was in great hardship. The servant's name was crossed off from the list of debtors and all of his debts were cancelled, making it unnecessary for the servant to pay back his master.

That servant was returning to his home in a great mood. On his way back, he ran into another person who owed him some money. As soon as he saw his debtor, he grabbed him by the neck and coerced him to pay back the money, which was far less than 1/1000 of his debt that had just been written off. Although the debtor said that he would pay back soon, the unforgiving servant took the other person to the police station. He tried to put the other person in jail for not paying him back. When his master heard about this, he recalled his wicked servant and rebuked him, saying, *"You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?" (Matthew 18:32-33).* And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.

Our Lord will not forgive those who don't cancel the debts owed to them, forgetting that

their debts were also cancelled. The lesson was for us to cancel as much debt as we are owed, since the debts we owed were also already cancelled. And that was an order from God. We have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit when we were unforgivable sinners. What justification do we have to hold others accountable for their debts?

Jesus said, *"So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses" (Matthew 18:35).* This is essentially the same as the Word *"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors."* Hence, we should not misinterpret the passage, *"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors."* We are able to forgive those who commit sins against us, because all of our personal sins were also blotted out already by the baptism our Lord received and His blood of the Cross. What our Lord requires of us is nothing other than this. What our Lord demands of us through this passage is for us to forgive each other. That is the real feature of the righteous. Indeed, we forgive each other in our lives.

However, sometimes there are those who practice evil to the servants of God, who treat each other preciously and believe in each other. There are many who loot from other people who are below them and treat them like fools, but we the righteous should never act that way. Although every person has some stupid side to a certain degree, but the righteous are not fools. Because we have pure forgiving hearts and faith before God, worldly people may look at us as fools. However, the believers of the gospel of the water and the Spirit are not fools. Rather they are the people who have experienced divine grace of Heaven living for the Kingdom of God.

Hence, we should never look at others as below us. If we are people of true character, we have to treat those who serve the gospel of the water and the Spirit as better than ourselves. People who cannot feel so with their hearts and who don't have such a mind are the most arrogant people in the world. Believers of the gospel of the water and the Spirit are blessed citizens of Heaven, possessing the wisdom and faith of Heaven and having brighter minds than anyone.

It is a great mistake and foolishness out of our confusion to think that we can control others with our thoughts. Trying to mislead the righteous, they are themselves led to the wrong place. Hence, they must repent, turn away, confess their wrongdoings, and obey God's Word on the basis of a right faith. Although God forgives those who deserve to receive their forgiveness even without their confessions, when those who have done wrong to God say their heartfelt repentance, their hearts will be made even more spiritual. True fellowship of faith takes place, when we confess our wrongdoings to each other. Then, our gratefulness for the grace in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which delivered us, will be inscribed deeper into our hearts. Our hearts become generous if we forgive each other in the love of our Lord and in the gospel, by which our Lord blotted out all our sins. I wish that the path to true fellowship in faith shall be always open among the hearts of the righteous.

## In Order for the Righteous to Enjoy Good Fellowship with Each Other

The Apostles' Creed goes, "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost… I believe…the Communion of the saints." The Apostle's Creed is talking about the Communion of the saints. That is, in God's Church, fellowship of the saints takes place among each other.

When we look at the righteous, we see both the things of their flesh and the things of their spirits. That is because God has made us look at each other's hearts through faith. We see both each other's wickedness as well as the preciousness of pure faith. The hearts of the righteous are like mirrors that reflect each other. We are able to serve the gospel and live in fellowship with each other for God, because our Lord has remitted all our sins by giving us the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Because we believe in the gospel of Truth, we are able to have fellowship with each other. We live in the gospel while joking with each other, sharing the sorrows of our hearts with each other, serving our Lord together, giving strength to each other, and comforting and encouraging each other.

It is certain that the Word *"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors"* does not mean that we should receive the remission of our sins on a daily basis. It says, "Forgive each other if you have truly received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. I gave you the necessary faith to do so and have already blessed you. You can do it if you really have received the remission of all your sins by believing in Me. If you believe that I have truly remitted all of your sins, you should also forgive each other and be at peace with each other." This is what the Word truly means. We believe that it means for the saints to live an ethical life in faith. Dear fellow believers, do you believe this? I am sure you do. If the righteous

turn their hearts around and ask for forgiveness, which of the righteous would not forgive and what sins would God not remit in the gospel of the water and the Spirit?

Our sisters! Our young sisters who will marry in the near future! We cannot do anything about those who are already married, but those who will marry in the near future should remember how good it is to have a believing spouse. This applies not only to our sisters but also to our young brothers. We may care about each other's face for a few days, but our preoccupation with each other's face won't last long.

Once we are married, we don't really care so much about each other's appearances as much as each other's hearts. A Korean pop singer once sang, "♪A woman must have a pretty heart. ♪Are you really a woman just for having a pretty face? ♪You are a true woman if your heart is unchanging once you give it to your lover." Dear fellow believers, sometimes we can learn from pop song lyrics. Truly, we must have pretty hearts to be good brothers in Christ. We need faith to be precious brothers and sisters in Christ. Then, we are brave and handsome gentlemen and ladies spiritually. In many occasions, those who are beautiful in their appearances are scamps. These scamps who look decent in their appearances know only themselves, are lazy, and don't take others into their consideration. Hence, they know nothing about uniting to serve the Lord.

There are people who loaf and eat, and we call them scamps. There are also animals that loaf and eat. The king of all debauchees is the king of the jungle lion, especially, the male lions. The male lions in a relaxed posture lie down in the shadow, not hunting but only taking naps. When the female lions come back from their arduous hunting trips, the male lions eat the largest share.

If there is any left over after filling himself, he pushes it over to the female lions and their cubs. There are many people in this world who look perfectly normal in their appearances but only try to loaf and eat without working. It is really easy to be deceived by these scamps too, since they all look decent in their appearances.

Hence, those who look handsome in their appearances are not quite fit for spouses in marriages. Rather, our priorities when looking for a spouse should be a person who serves God with sincerity, who lives for the gospel, who leads his family well, who never lets his family starve, who helps his wife serve our Lord well, and who defends his family from all kinds of danger.

I am one of those people who really married well. My wife never complained a word to me, although I have at times been neglectful to my family to serve the gospel. Although she was sometimes a little disappointed by other things that I failed to take care of, she always said that I am precious for serving the gospel. A married couple must be this way toward each other.

I once even misunderstood her. I was even a little disappointed by it, but looking back I realize that everything was understandable. My wife has such a tender heart that her heart aches when she sees a brother or a sister dying because of his or her weakness and fragile faith. Hence, she sided with them with an empathetic heart, stepping in their shoes and suffering with them. That is so good.

But the problem is that there are those who make bad use of other's weakness. It is a wrong faith to try to take advantage of other people's weaknesses and to exploit them to accomplish one's greed of the flesh. Dear fellow believers, those who are ahead can feel truly empathetic towards the weaknesses of others in order to

cover the weaknesses of those who are behind. Being empathetic as thus and comforting others will encourage one's faith. Such a heart leads others to serve our Lord together. The problem is that there are still those who try to lift themselves up even above God.

Dear fellow believers, we should never allow those who are ahead in the church of God to torment, hurt, and ruin other saints spiritually. A shepherd dog is set free to roam among the sheep to prevent the sheep from going anywhere they are not supposed to. The shepherd dog that roams free keeps the sheep and protects them against the attacks by wolves. And when the sheep wander astray, the shepherd dog keeps them on the safe path by barking to warn them. The shepherd dog does these things in order to prevent sheep from falling off the cliffs. That shepherd dog does the work of the shepherd. In another word shepherd dog means pastor.

Hence, sometimes the spiritual leaders may appear to be without compassion. However, they are doing what they do in order to keep the saints on the right path out of their sincere wish for them. Because they want to see other saints and workers of God prosper in faith, the leaders are admonishing them and strongly encouraging them. They block some saints, set other saints lose, stop still others from doing things, and make the others keep doing what they have been in order to protect all of them.

I truly am grateful for the remission of all my sins by the gift of the gospel of the water and the Spirit. If someone truly does not oppose or interfere with the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and turns around from his faults, I can say, "Well, that's understandable. We are only humans. I knew that all along."

Today's Scripture passage from the Lord's Prayer was *"And forgive us our debts, As we*

*forgive our debtors."* And this means that God has given us the power to forgive each other's faults. Our Lord told us to forgive each other's faults within the Truth. We give thanks to our Lord for blotting out all our sins once and for all.✉

# We Must Not Live a Life Chasing Only after The Desires of the Flesh

**< Matthew 6:13 >**

**"And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."**

Today's Scripture passage comes from the very end of the Lord's Prayer. The phrase *"For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever"* is not included in the NU-Text. By the way, I am sharing with you about the Lord's Prayer verse by verse. If time permits, I would like to share the correct truth with you by going into more details on the remaining Word from the Lord's Prayer.

Just to remind you about what I have shared with you so far, I told you that those who have received the remission of sin once and for all by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit do not need to receive the remission of sin on a daily basis. Our Lord has washed away even all of our personal sins through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Dear fellow believers, do you believe this? I am sure you do.

The Bible says, *"For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life" (2 Corinthians 3:6)*. This Word tells us that we should believe what our Lord said by knowing His intentions and we should not merely interpret His Word literally. If we interpret the Word of God merely literally, we cannot help merely falling into human morality and ethics. If we interpreted the passage *"Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name"* only

literally, we cannot but live with legalistic enthusiasm so that the name of our Father in Heaven would be deemed glorious.

However, the Bible does not tell us to do something first, but it says that our Lord first washed away all our sins for our sanctification. Our Lord did not ask us of powers, which we are unable to produce. Rather, our Lord tells us to believe in the gospel of the remission of sin, which our Lord has accomplished, and to keep our holiness through our faith.

The second prayer topic of the Lord's Prayer is *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."* If we try to accomplish the holiness that can only be found in the Kingdom of Heaven and the remission of sin through our own flesh, we would suffer much and eventually become the enemies of God. Yet, those who are in the Truth should build the Kingdom of God by their faith. The Kingdom of God is achieved not by our own merits but by our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and by our preaching the true gospel.

The third prayer topic of the Lord's Prayer is *"Give us this day our daily bread."* In accordance with this Word, we should believe in and ruminate over the gospel of the water and the Spirit each and every day. Moreover, we should do the work of God. This Word does not prescribe us a prayer topic to seek for things of the flesh. You might think that we should seek first the things for our flesh, after looking at the above Word. Relying on this Word, some people pray in their flesh, "Lord, give us this and that so that we don't starve. Help me sell a lot of vegetables as I run my business today. Help us in all our businesses. Give us food everyday so that we won't ever starve. Help my business grow. Help our parents to stay healthy. And help our children go to colleges." Hence, there are so

many people in this world who have a wrong faith. However, our Lord gave us God's righteous gospel, blessed us through our faith in His righteousness, and gave us our daily bread by making us do the righteous work of God.

The fourth prayer topic of the Lord's Prayer is, *"And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors."* We should fall into a great fallacy in our faith interpreting the Word of God to mean we should forgive each other solely by our human perspective. Then, it will require a lot of good deeds from our flesh. Are we able to behave virtuously in our flesh everyday? I am saying that we cannot do that. If we lived according to such a teaching, we might have to keep talking by saying "It's okay. Don't worry about it. I am fine" over and over again without getting angry at any situation. Christians feel that they should turn their left cheeks when someone hits them on their right cheeks. However, we should not believe that we were given this prayer topic so that we would live our lives without any stance. If we lived thus, we would be spineless like worms. Yet, we would indeed live that way, if we interpreted every Word of God literally.

Those who are right in their core faith focus on believing in the rightness of God. Among all humanity, only the righteous absolutely believe in God properly and lift the righteousness of God. Hence, we should never be deceived by what those who believe wrongly say. Some people say that our personal sins should be remitted daily through prayers of repentance as it is written: *"Forgive us our debts"* in the Lord's Prayer. But, this is not the case. It is not so because our Lord blotted out all our sins by the baptism He received from John the Baptist and by His blood of the Cross. Actually, the Word of God is as follows: Based on the precondition of the remission of all our sins that has been

achieved by our Lord through His baptism and the blood, we should forgive each other as it is written *"As we forgive our debtors."*

Here, 'we' is designating the righteous that received the remission of sin from our Lord. We have to interpret the Lord's Prayer by presupposing that it is spoken specifically to the righteous that believe in the gospel Word of the water and the Spirit. In this world, only the believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit can call God as "our Father who is in Heaven." When the Lord asked us to pray, *"Our Father in heaven,"* it was given only to the children of God, who received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Hence, the believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit must glorify the name of our Father by believing in this gospel Truth. Every righteous person can return glory to God only when they live out their faith.

If those who have not been born again yet want to give a proper prayer to God according to the lessons of the Lord's Prayer, they first have to receive the remission of sin. They have to first pray for our Lord to blot out all their sins. In order words, they have to first receive the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Only then can they become the children of God and call God as their Father.

## *"And Do Not Lead Us into Temptation"*

Truly, where and by what are we tempted? This temptation refers to suffering hardships. In another word, we must first know what brings hardships to the righteous, both the saints and the servants of God, who have received the remission of sin by the water and the Spirit. In

James, it says that people suffer hardships because of their own greed (James 1:14).

Every righteous person suffers from temptation because of the greed of the flesh. The righteous should not live by their greedy manner but to do the works that reveal the glory of God by seeking the righteousness of God. Still, when their own greed sneaks up, they fall into temptations and hardships. Hence, our Lord taught us to pray *"And do not lead us into temptation."* He told us that we should pray before our Lord not to let us fall into hardships due to our very wicked hearts.

If we believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and live for the spread of the true faith, we can be delivered even if we fall into hardships. Hence, the righteous by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit do not fall into these extreme hardships. From time to time, there are those among the righteous who fall into extreme hardships. What kind of people are they then? They are the ones who only seek after their own greed of the flesh. The dividing line between living spiritually and living in the flesh is whether we set in our hearts to follow the will of God or not. Everything is determined by the faith in people's hearts. Hence, we must make up our minds to live for the righteous works of God.

We must first seek and follow God's Kingdom and His righteousness. However, our souls are prone to fall into temptations because we don't. Our Lord said that people do not live by the bread alone but by every Word that comes from the mouth of God. That is, we fall into hardships because, bound by our greed, we worry about how we are going to live and what we are going to eat and wear instead of thinking about spiritual matters even after we have been born again. It is all because of chasing their greed of the flesh that the saints and the servants of God are trapped in

a deep mire of cynicism. Then, souls lose their powers and fall into despair. In short, they fall into hardships because their hearts are filled with the greed of flesh and have left God.

## Naomi Suffered Hardship in this World While Chasing after Her Ambitions

Let's think about hardships that Naomi faced in the Book of Ruth. At the time of Judges, the family of Naomi faced extreme famine when she was in Bethlehem. So, Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, went into the land of Moab with his two sons named Mahlon and Chilion. Although crops did not grow well in Bethlehem and people suffered of famine, they heard that rain was plentiful in Moab and that crops grew abundantly. So, they went down to Moab. Elimelech and Naomi looked at their surrounding environment, and to preserve their flesh they left the place God had decided.

However, Naomi lost everything that was left to her in the country of Moab: It is written, *"Then Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left, and her two sons. Now they took wives of the women of Moab: the name of the one was Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth. And they dwelt there about ten years. Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died; so the woman survived her two sons and her husband" (Ruth 1:3-5).*

Naomi was unable to overcome her spiritual poverty, and she suffered even worse in her flesh. Naomi could only regret. If a man of faith is unable to live by his faith in God and follow the greed of his flesh instead of his faith in order to survive in the flesh, all he faces in the end is

his own ruin. If a man of faith does not follow his faith but only his flesh, he will face hardships both in body and spirit, killing his soul and impoverishing his flesh.

Let's ruminate on the Word of God to pray, *"And do not lead us into temptation."* The Lord told us to pray thus because we should not fall into extreme hardships. In order for us not to fall into such temptations, we should not end at receiving the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit but live as the soldiers of Christ. As a matter of fact, since all those who have received the remission of sin are citizens of Heaven, they are also the soldiers recruited by God. Just as the armies of this world conscribe their soldiers at appropriate times, all the saints are to be enlisted to serve in the army of God in due time.

Hence, when those who have received the remission of sin are called to live for the gospel as God's soldiers, they should answer "yes" and live for the spread of His gospel. That path to faith will enable us to live in the Kingdom of God for eternity without leading our souls into temptations. Only when we live by our faith, can we experience the fulfillment of our Lord's Word, *"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33)*. Our Lord is teaching us that He won't let us fall into temptations if we live as the soldiers of the gospel.

Even among our saints and our ministers, there are probably those enslaved by ambitions such as "How can I lift up myself? How could I with my family gain secure lives? What do I need to do to become rich? What do I need to do to take care of my daily needs and not have to worry about them anymore?" Thinking along those lines, these people only seek the comfort of

their flesh. They don't fight the spiritual war and care less about what happens with the gospel. Surely, these people will be led into temptations and face much hardship.

Truly, those who have become soldiers of Christ inside the Church by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit will be taken care of their needs from the heads down to their heels, when they participate in every work that the Church carries on. Those who live for God despite of their weaknesses will be taken care of, at the least in their daily needs. And in the future, they will increasingly receive the blessings from God like the rising sun. Our Lord will bless them from their heads to toes. However, those who are preoccupied only with the matters of the flesh will end up selling their souls as well as their faith like the setting sun.

If there are among those who have received the remission of sin people who leave the church of God and the servants of God to chase the prosperity of their flesh, they will rather suffer hardships in the flesh and live a cursed life. If someone comes up to you and says, "Get out of this Church and follow me. I will guarantee you success," at a moment your heart is full of selfish thoughts for your flesh, and if you in turn follow him leaving God behind, then you will be cut off from God like an orphan and face hardships without any protection. If such a person leaves the church of God and builds his own worldly church in order to live well in the flesh, and if he is actually successful in gathering masses of people into his own church, then the gospel he preaches will be a corrupted one stating that believing in the blood of the Cross alone will make them sinless righteous people. If he ministers a church successfully by such means, it is rather a failure. If he fails in the flesh, he is cursed. Moreover, if he succeeds in the flesh, he

is still cursed. *"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men" (Matthew 5:13).* Thus spoke God.

It is a truly blessed life for the born again to worship together in the church of God, have fellowship with other saints and the servants of God, be instructed, be guided, pray together, and participate in the works of building the Kingdom of God as the soldiers of Christ. This life would be a truly blessed one.

There is a hymn entitled "He let me live with clear eyes." There was a spiritually blind person living without any joy in his life. He wished that he could really serve our Lord once in his lifetime without any sin. When he met the gospel of the water and the Spirit, he was able to see our Lord with clear eyes and serve Him in his life. One of our ministers wrote and composed this hymn. He was raised inside the Church and now spreads the gospel throughout the world.

This happiness is not necessarily limited only to our ministers. Whether it be a saint or a minister, if a person does his best spiritually on his allotted work inside the Church, he will see all the spiritual blessings with clear eyes. It is a great blessing for us to do the works allotted to us by God in the Kingdom of God, that is, inside the Church where every saint holds the same faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

Moreover, God took care of our daily needs also. Although we still earn our living in the Kingdom of God, if we think more cautiously, we realize that we are able to make a living because we are inside the Kingdom of God, that we are able to enjoy everything because God has given them to us, and that we are to live in the first place because our Lord fills in our needs. Hence, he who tries to live will perish, and he

who tries to die will live in prosperity. If we are determined that we will stay put in the Church whether we die or live, God will give us the same blessings that He gave to Naomi and Ruth. That is, just as God gave blessings to Ruth, who was merely a Gentile woman from Moab. Just as God had Ruth meet Boaz and earn his favor, our Lord will bless us who hang on to Him with all our faith.

However, if we worry about and preoccupy ourselves with thoughts like "How can my flesh survive? How could I work less and show off my riches and successes? How can I be respected by other people," we will fall into hardship in a short time. At the end, those who put their minds only to living splendidly in their flesh will eventually sell their faith and die.

All our focus must be centered at and on Christ our God. And we must live our lives in accordance with the will of God spoken to us. This is for our Lord and our own good as well. Strictly speaking, we don't live by the gospel for anyone else but for none other than our own good.

If you leave the church of God, it would be the same as leaving the Kingdom of God. If you leave the church of God, your hearts will be tainted by the world soon because you will not be supplied the Word of God. Your hearts will become wicked because you won't be able to have fellowship, and Satan the Devil will build his house inside your hearts. Moreover, Satan the Devil will start working inside the hearts of those who have left the church of God. Satan the Devil will delight even more while he sketches his wicked plans because their hearts are not cleaned spotlessly.

Next, Satan the Devil will lead them in his wicked ways. Once Satan the Devil gains complete control over them, they will become

slaves to the Devil being used to do evil deeds. No matter how hard they might have once believed in the gospel, they won't have the power to overcome Satan the Devil once they yield themselves up to the temptation of Satan. And when they see the righteous that are in union with the church of God, spitefulness will boil over from deep inside their hearts and they will want to oppose the righteous and the church of God.

Dear fellow believers, do we need to turn into such people? Would that truly be beneficial for us? That would be the surest way to kill our selves. Hence, our Lord taught us to pray, *"And do not lead us into temptation."* That is, we have to live by faith so that we don't fall into temptations. It is written, *"The just shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17).* We need faith to live in union with the church of God as the soldiers of Christ despite all of our weaknesses. That is, faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and faith that follows the righteousness of God are essential to the born-again righteous. We have to devote our lives for the purpose of building the Kingdom of God. This orientation is the life of a Christian after he has been born again.

If we don't live for such a purpose, our lives will be filled only with complaints and dissatisfactions. "Man, this scum claims to be a pastor. Look at him. Would a pastor wear shorts and misbehave like that? A pastor should have some dignity, but this guy has none. He may look okay when he goes up in the pulpit because he is wearing his suit, but he is worse than an ordinary Jack once he steps down from there." That is all they see from the servants of God who are ahead of them. Hence, they complain about the Church as well as those who are spiritually ahead of them. Instead of looking at the spiritual, all they see are the things in the flesh. They falsely judge

and ignore the Church and those who are ahead of them. What would happen if these complaints boil over? They are going to challenge. Such behaviors are going to lead them to their own demise.

Dear fellow believers, we are all very precious beings. Also, we are all soldiers of Christ. Soldiers do not fight alone but united with other soldiers. If a fellow soldier dies in a battle, that death hurts our hearts. We feel the empty spaces beside us left by those who died in these battles. And we are threatened by the fact that we might face similar ends. You are lying if you said that you are thinking, "Although my fellow soldier by my side has passed away, I am not going to die. I am ala right. I am invincible." We have to realize the fact that, once the soldiers by our sides die, we would have to face more enemies on our own and the chance that we are going to lose our lives dramatically increases. Hence, our fellow soldiers are so very precious. True comradeship in war takes place when we throw ourselves into the battle for the loss of a fellow soldier.

Here goes a story. Two of the closest friends from childhood went to the same military unit. They truly had a special kind of friendship. The unit they were in engaged in an urgent battle. One of the friends was directly facing the enemy in the middle of the battlefield. At that instant, a bullet pierced through his body. The other friend could see his friend fatally wounded and breathing hard. He couldn't leave his friend behind. No one there was willing to run into a shower of bullets to save his friend. Although everyone advised against it, he ran toward his friend to save him. When he had carried his friend over the battlefield, his friend had already died and he was seriously wounded himself.

Many people asked why he risked his life for such a fruitless endeavor knowing what might

happen to him. At this, he replied, "I have gained something so valuable. The last words my friend breathed to me were 'I knew you would come.'" That is true comradeship, companionship, and a long lasting friendship.

Spiritually, we are the soldiers of Christ. If someone is a soldier of Christ, he is a precious person who cannot be lost. All the saints are precious because we look at them not only in their appearances as well as in their hearts and faith. Hence, we respect them. We work in union with each other. We thank God for the works of which they are in charge. We respect each other, although we may each have a very different role to play. We care for each other. Why is that? That is because we know that we are able to exist because of them. Without them, we wouldn't be here either. Without you, I would not exist. Without me, you wouldn't be either.

Hence, Satan the Devil constantly tries to drag us away from the Kingdom of God. When he drags us away, he lures us with sweet lies. "I will guarantee everything." He may say this or just make us think that we will gain great riches if we only follow him. Although he deceives us with those sweet lies at first, Satan the Devil will demand for the proper compensation in the end. "I will do this for you, so you should pay me back by paying such a cost." Is it so or not? Yes, it is truly so. Satan the Devil demands of us an enormous compensation. Once we pay the compensation that Satan the Devil demands of us, we have nothing left for us. Such a case only benefits Satan the Devil always. We are never able to live well in such ways. This is the place called the world where Satan rules.

*"And do not lead us into temptation."* Truly, we should never fall into temptations. We have to live by faith and give glory to God. Although we are weak, we have to comfort and be

comforted by each other as well as encourage each other. When we live thus, we will live abundantly tasting the fruits of righteousness as well as the rewards of righteousness. That is what God has required of us. We should live such lives by faith. The Lord's Prayer tells us to live by faith from its beginning to its end. It tells us to become such and such through living by faith.

## The Life of the Righteous Is the Life of Faith and Prayer

Hence, we must pray. Not only should we pray but in addition we should hold on to our faith. The faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit is the power to overcome the world. The Word from 1 John chapter 5 says, *"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth" (1 John 5:4-6).* The faith in Jesus Christ who came by the water, the blood, and the Spirit overcomes the world.

Do you think that this faith is ordinary? This faith enables us to go into the Kingdom of Heaven as it opens the gates to the Kingdom of Heaven. This faith we possess is something that is not ordinary. We cannot treat the gospel lightly. Dear fellow believers, do you believe this? Yes, of course.

To me, every one of my coworkers and the saints are very precious. Although we are all distinct in the flesh, I know that we all appear the same in each other's eyes. From our perspectives

of the flesh, we are all weak and inadequate just the same. However, I know and believe that we are all very precious spiritually. I truly believe so in my heart? Why? If we do not unite in our efforts to serve the gospel, how can we ever spread the gospel throughout the world? If we do not unite to serve the gospel, how could this gospel be shared? If each and every one of us does not live for our Lord and the gospel, how can all the people in this world ever hear about the gospel and receive their new lives? Those things could never take place.

Dear fellow believers, we should never underestimate ourselves who have received the remission of sin. We should never look down on the church of God. Even if we counted down to every young Sunday school student that attends our Church, we have no more than 300 members. Still, we are spreading the gospel throughout the entire world. We are not doing this because we have some excellent power in our flesh. All we have is the gospel of the water and the Spirit that our Lord has given us.

Although we are small in number, we are able to spread the gospel throughout the whole world for we have the Holy Spirit in our hearts by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Our Lord has enlisted us as His soldiers by giving us the Word and faith. We are able to do the works of God because we have true faith. And we are so very precious because we do the works of God. God is able to do His works through us.

The term ‘warrior’ applies to those who fight well. But, whether talented or not, soldiers are soldiers all the same. When they hear the shout of order “charge,” they charge on to the fields with spears in their hands. When they hear “climb,” they climb up the ladders even if their enemies drop stones and pour hot waters on

them. These are soldiers. How could anyone climb up those ladders when they see steaming water pouring down? If I were in such a battle, I would probably run away as fast as I could. It is incredible courage to climb up the ladders despite seeing rocks as big as entire houses falling down, burning oil pouring down, and fiery arrows flying towards them. Although they can see the dangers with their eyes, soldiers charge into the battlefield at the command of their leader. Because all these soldiers are willing to sacrifice, they are able to capture a city and win the war.

Although we don't fight in this manner, we are fighting spiritual battles everyday. We have captured high-tech weapons to spread the gospel. We are not wasting time by going into isolated areas without a plan but working very effectively with the few people we have. I believe all of this is of God's wisdom. If we had more soldiers on our side to do the work of the gospel, we might have ignored the power of God and thought that we were successful because of our talents and fortitude. However, God did not allow such a distraction to happen to us. Truly, all we have to do is watch God do His work as we live in our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

God likes to work through His Church. The church of God is not another place but a place where those who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit gather to spread this God given gospel throughout the entire world. God works through us when we believe in the Word of God and unite with each other to work as the soldiers of God.

Bethlehem means 'the house of bread.' The house that gives the bread of life is none other than the church of God. I don't understand what other bread people go searching for out in the

world. If we are seduced by Satan the Devil or by any other bread than God's bread of life, we won't be able to partake in the glory of God but rather lose our own lives. I urge you to believe. Although you might find the lure of the Devil tastes sweet at the current moment, he will torture you by demanding a lot more in return. Hence, we are told not to fall into such temptations that we are unable to return to our home, the Church.

## If the Righteous Serve the Gospel alongside God's Church, That Is the Most Proper Life

I said to you that if you stay inside Bethlehem, which is the house of bread, that you shall have many provisions. If you are inside the house of bread, you won't starve even if famine hits you. The rich will come to us with their flours and ask us to bake for them. As compensation for baking for them, the bakery takes a certain portion of the flour. Hence, even in the old days when everyone was poor, my friends who were sons and daughters of bakeries never missed a meal and ate the best of breads. Not only did they eat white breads but also wheat breads. At that time I was a skinny boy because I couldn't even get a bowl of corn flour to eat.

Of course, my friend's family that ran the bakery was not much richer than mine. Still, they were able to eat the best of the breads at each meal because they baked breads out of the flours they took to test from what each customer brought. In the same way, they baked wheat breads to eat. Flours and other ingredients gained by such means turned into delicious breads of various kinds. You can add a bit of melting

butter on the top. Of course, it wasn't just any butter but the sweetest. White breads and wheat breads would come out of the oven, and once you added butter to the top of them, they were indescribably delicious. My family just lived a few doors down from the bakery. I could smell the sweet smell from my home. You wouldn't know how much I wanted to eat those breads. All we could do was to salivate at the smell.

I will describe what my family looked like back then. My father would wave at me with his long cigarette pipe to come to him and tap his empty pipe a few times. That meant that I should fill his pipe with some tobacco. I was young but I knew that he wanted to fill his pipe with some tobacco. Once I finished, he would tap his cigarette pipe a few more times. This time it meant that I should light his pipe. I would light his pipe. When I got a little older, probably around 6 years old, I had to suck the pipe till the tobacco in it caught fire. My father was an old fashioned gentleman who wouldn't dare go out to beg for some bread, even if that meant that his family would starve.

I couldn't afford to worry about good manners as my father did. Half of the time, my family would miss a meal without anything to eat. Hence, I couldn't miss an opportunity to eat because of my pride. It was the wish of my lifetime till I was in fourth grade to be able to eat an entire loaf of bread by myself. I never ate as much bread as I wanted when I was young. Even when my family prepared breads for ancestor worship, it would be hollow like a balloon. Two bites and an entire loaf of bread were gone. My heart crumbled down when I stared into the hollow inside of the bread. In the past, you couldn't imagine what kind of a miser I was when it came to food because of this. These days, we have so much to eat that we are worried over

dieting. Yet, in the past, we lamented over the food disappearing into our stomachs because we always wanted to eat more. We went through such times.

Nowadays, since I have met our Lord, I don't worry about such things and live rather well. Before I met our Lord, my family was destitute. Still, these days, we live rather an abundant life. This is all due to the grace of God. Of course, I haven't stacked up my riches like Bill Gates, but I never go without eating at a meal and have enough to serve the gospel. So am I rich or what? I do not wish to stack up riches under my name and do not live for such ends. I am not an exception but rather everyone who has been born again by the water and the Spirit lives in the same way. We the servants of God never work to gain riches for ourselves. We only earn necessary materials to serve the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

Today, it might be here and tomorrow there, but wherever I go to spread the gospel is home to me. Hence, I don't need a big house. If we the saints who have been born again have enough space to worship, that place is our Church. Hence, I do not envy tall churches built with red bricks. Don't you the saints feel the same way? Of course, you do.

*"And do not lead us into temptation."* If we leave the church of God and leave the Kingdom of God, we cannot help but fall into temptations. In another word, we fall into temptations because we follow after the greed of our flesh. The word temptation means 'to suffer hardship.' How great is it that we serve the gospel together united in the Kingdom of God, fight together, joke around together, and play soccer together? Who in the world could give birth to 280 children? However, since we are in God, we have God as our parent of 280 children and form a family with 280

brothers and sisters.

As the old sayings go, "Wind never ceases on a full branched tree," there can be many affairs in the family of lots of children. However, we are very happy that we have a family that purely serves our God the Father united with each other in our heart. Where on earth could you find another family with as much love as us? There is no one happier than us. We are truly happy people.

Dear fellow believers, if we the ministers did not serve the gospel but rather tried to make money only for ourselves out in the world, would we have as much to spare? Would we be able to get the rest in both our bodies and our hearts at such a Bible Camp and allow our bodies and hearts to become healthy? If we worked really hard out in the world, would our hearts be filled and our lives satisfied? We could never do this out in the world.

Yet, God has allowed us to have richly blessed lives. If God has given us such blessed lives, why are some of us volunteering for hardships by falling into temptations? Those who enjoy everything that God gives and live happily are truly wise and happy. If we live inside He who gives us strength and inside the blessings from God by our faith, we can be satisfied. God fills our needs in His time, if we live and pray for the establishment of the Kingdom of God, pray to fill our necessities of life, and face the challenge in everything through our faith and stand by our church. Why would you volunteer for hardships, when God provides us with the early and late rains? We never have to live in such hardships.

Even if you have to face hardships in your lives, I wish you to face them for our Lord. And let us live happily and worthily in Christ and in the Kingdom of God through our faith. God has given us His grace so that we may live such

lives. Our Lord has delivered us by coming in to this world, receiving His baptism, dying on the Cross, and being resurrected from the dead. He has recruited us to be His soldiers. He has placed us in the Kingdom of God and allowed us to live inside the church of God. God Himself blessed our lives and lets us establish the worthy work here on earth. And He has us finish all our lives inside the church of God, while we live in this world.

Let us believe that this is the will of God. I hope that you will come to believe that it is our God given destiny to live doing the righteous work inside the Church and the Kingdom of God while we also build the Kingdom of God. Do you comprehend? Of course, you do. I exhort every citizen of God born again by the water and the Spirit to have faith and live accordingly so that they won't fall into temptations. ✉

# We Should Be Delivered From Such Evil Rather Than Fall into It

**< Matthew 6:13 >**
**"And do not lead us into temptation,**
**But deliver us from the evil one"**

Dear fellow believers, how was your meal? We sang some praise songs before today's sermon, and one of those praise songs was a song entitled "The warriors of our Lord." In the last phrase, the words "warriors of heavenly army♩" hit some quite high pitches and sometimes I fail to hit that high. Most of our saints either just lip sync or make a screeching sound, but I think my efforts were commendable today. So, I was quite proud of myself, but our praise leader said that those who really sing well only lip sync in those parts. His saying made my crest fall for a short while. I am thankful that we the born again righteous people of God are able to praise God, whether we sing well or not. I believe our praises are beautiful before God, even if all that we do is sing out of harmony.

This afternoon, believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit will receive their baptism. Fortunately, the weather is quite wonderful to give and receive baptism. After we finish our baptism ceremony, you may swim in the pool. Just be careful about the cold water. I think the water of our pool is too cold for the old or feeble people. I advise those who are going to play in the water to watch the time you are in the water. Above all, safety is our utmost concern. We will have about one hour reserved for time to play in the water, and afterwards we will resume with

our group fellowships.

During summer, water sports are the most fun. Especially, our Sunday school children will love to play in the water. Our Sunday school children have been asking their teachers when they go swimming since they arrived here. They want to try out their new swimming suits and hence, cannot wait for their chance to dip in the water. They saw the middle and high school youth go into the pool to clean it and have been asking why they are not allowed in it. They wanted to go inside the water so bad that they volunteered to clean the pool themselves.

Our kids are so talented in dancing. You would be surprised at their dance moves. From break dance to hip-hop, there isn't a style of dance they can't do. I thought that I was a good dancer, but compared to our children, what I did cannot even be called dancing. Their dance moves are truly amazing. Once you see them dance, you want to reward them with some sweets.

There is one kid who is especially enthusiastic about dancing. If some other kid shows off a better dance move than he does, he gets jealous and tries even harder to dance better than that other kid. His grandfather lives in downtown Injae. There is a television program called "Amateur Singers Contest" that tours around the country to find talented people in singing and dancing. This grandfather appeared on the show and won the popularity award, when the show came to Injae. He was able to win the popularity award with his incredible twists.

Still, no one in the family welcomed him back home, when he came back with the popularity award from the contest. He expected a great welcoming party with banners. But when he saw no reaction from his family, he was a little disappointed. He got upset and vented that it is

no use to raise children.

His grandson might inherit his grandfather's blood and talent for dancing. This kid is already a master in twist dancing and now is mastering break dancing. Also, the father of this kid is an excellent singer. He can sing any song in this world. He has a talent of singing an appropriate pop song to whatever subject our conversations may turn to. I don't think it was naturally innate in him but rather that he have heard so many songs from his infancy. The grandfather of the Sunday school kid, who is the father of the pop song wizard, used to be a domestic tofu maker. He would start making tofu from 4 in the morning while listening to pop songs on the radio. Because he was raised listening to pop songs from his infancy, he was able to become an authority in matters regarding pop songs to this day. Although we do not teach any pop songs at the church of God, he still is able to sing any old pop song on demand. Truly, you cannot lie about someone's bloodline as we inherit our genes from our parents. We praise the Lord for having this guy use his talents for singing not out in the world but to praise God. God is truly amazing.

Today, we will focus on verse 13 of the Lord's Prayer, *"And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."* I said we fall into temptations, hardships, and evil because we follow our own greed. If any saint especially commits evil deeds before God and becomes an evil person, it is because he is chasing after his fleshly prosperity.

## We Must Pray That We Do Not Fall into the Evil That Jeroboam Fell Into

If we look at the Scripture at 1 King chapter

12 verses 22 to 24, we are able to read about the reign of King Jeroboam. This person Jeroboam was not originally of a royal family but a subordinate of King Solomon. This man became the king of Israel by chance.

David, the king of Israel, was a person who walked with God and for that he received great blessings from God. After his death, his son Solomon became king of Israel due to David's faith. Solomon in turn received great blessings to acquire whatever he wanted. However, Solomon served many idols instead of the one true God. He earned God's wrath by living after only his own greed and not the Word of God. However, God postponed His judgment on Solomon for another generation out of consideration for David.

Solomon's son Rehoboam did not turn his heart around and committed even worse evil deeds than his father instead of following God. God did not hold His wrath any longer and cursed him. When Rehoboam, son of Solomon, became king, God gave 10 of the 12 tribes of Israel to Jeroboam, who was not even from a royal family, in order to punish Solomon and Rehobaom.

Jeroboam did not fear God, however, despite his humble origin. Although he had received kingship because of God's punishment of the royal family, he lost sight of this fact and tried to defend his glory as a king. Although he should have believed, followed and served Jehovah God for ordaining him as king, Jeroboam didn't.

Once he became king, Jeroboam did not like the fact that the Temple was in Jerusalem, which was still governed by Rehoboam. He thought that his people's worshipping at the Temple in a region governed by Rehoboam would undermine and threaten his authority. On the tenth day of the seventh month each year, people would go to

the land governed by Rehoboam to worship and participate in the offering of the Day of Atonement. Jeroboam thought that it could be a great threat to his kingship and planned schemes to defend his powers.

He was always conscious in the back of his head that he was not from a royal family. There were two kings in one nation at that point, and if one of them had to quit the throne, Jeroboam knew very well that it would be him. "I wasn't legitimately supposed to be the king and still I managed to become the king. Hence, my people could naturally form a faction to dethrone me. If that ever becomes true, I will lose everything I have including even my own life." Once Jeroboam felt this way, he devised plans to stay in power out of fear that his kingship granted by God may be in jeopardy.

Thus, Jeroboam built shrines at the southern and northern end of the Kingdom of Israel. He built shrines in Dan and Bethel and placed a golden calf in each of them. Instead of the Temple in Jerusalem, he built shrines at Dan and Bethel. Instead of the ark of the covenant of the LORD, he placed golden claves in them and had his people worship them. Pointing to the golden calf, he said, "This is the god who brought you out of Egypt." He made people serve a visible idol. This was an outrageous act of treachery against God, so immense that it was unforgivable.

## Because He Followed Only the Desires of the Flesh

The Lord teaches us to pray, *"And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."* People fall into temptations and evil because they follow only after their own flesh.

The source of all our temptations, hardships, and evil is to follow the greed of our flesh. Jeroboam fell into the evil of opposing God because he wanted to fill the greed of his own flesh. He committed evil deeds before God so that he wouldn't lose his kingship, fame, and honor in the flesh.

Jeroboam would not have committed such hideous evil, if he had known and believed in God correctly. God gave Jeroboam all of 12 tribes except for the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, so Jeroboam should have received this with his faith. It is God who can give and take away as well as sustain that glory and honor. In spite of this, Jeroboam did not believe in God. He should have lived his life praising God who had given him his kingship as well as all his wealth, glory, power, and honor. Instead, blinded by the greed of his flesh, he committed the great evil of opposing God. Jeroboam, who had been given 10 tribes of all Israelites, was afraid of losing his kingship to Rehoboam and tried to sustain his position through human efforts. He did not believe that all these works had happened to fulfill God's will.

No matter how weak our faith may be, we should never commit the evil of chasing human glory rather than turning the glory to God. If he had lacked in his faith, he should have gone to the Temple of God and met with God and asked God to sustain his distinct position. But, Jeroboam ended up opposing God out of his human greed to defend all of his glories. Out of fear that he might lose his kingship and his servants, he committed the unforgivable sin of worshipping idols before God.

The Israelites came to commit the sin of worshipping all sorts of idols as well as the golden calves before God because of Jeroboam. The sin Jeroboam committed was evil and

atrocious because it became the origin of a collective heresy of the Israelites that makes them stand against God all the time. Hence, a history of subordinates overthrowing their kings to become kings themselves continued. People continued to worship at shrines. People believed wooden carvings in the shape of humans. And people bowed before the idol of Asherah, a gentile goddess, instead of their true God. They committed all sorts of evil while calling the name of the Lord God inside their shrines. They bowed before gentile gods and idols of fertility and prayed for the birth of children as well as their prosperity. Furthermore, there were male and female prostitutes around the shrines to perform all kinds of obscene acts. Jeroboam's sins made the Israelites forget that Jehovah God is the true God. He made them leave God and commit all sorts of evil. His sins were an atrocious evil that deserved all kinds of curses.

The Lord taught us to pray, *"And do not lead us into temptation,"* in the Lord's Prayer. Because we can go astray if we fall into too great of a hardship, He told us to pray that we get delivered from evil so that we may not fall into great hardships. Hence, we should act out of our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit when facing all evil.

## Let's Think about Praying *"Deliver Us from the Evil One"*

We commit many personal sins in this world. We commit so many sins that we cannot recall every single one of them ourselves. We are the wicked beings who cannot help but commit all kinds of sins. Although we cannot help but commit such sins, all of our sins were washed away completely through our faith in the gospel

of the water and the Spirit. Since we now live in our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit before God, we must not pray for the forgiveness of all our sins everyday but for the strength not to betray our faith in the gospel.

*"But deliver us from the evil one!"* In other words, we must pray that we do not fall into the evil of directly opposing God, which deteriorates the gospel of the water and the Spirit. And our Lord is telling us that we should also pray for the strength to share the gospel of the water and the Spirit with those who have not received the remission of sin as of yet.

As we look at the passage *"But deliver us from the evil one"* from the Lord's Prayer, we will examine what God is telling us and how this is taking place in the realm of the spiritual world. The salvation of the remission of sin in the Bible is revealed both through the sacrificial system of the Tabernacle and in the Old Testament and through Jesus' ministries on this earth, that is, His baptism, blood, death, and resurrection written in the New Testament.

We are able to realize that the reason the Israelites were ruined was originally because of Jeroboam's sins. The Israelites had lost their land for about two thousand years and now are still entangled over a series of disputes because Jeroboam corrupted the sacrificial system set by God and because he led the Israelites to himself rather than to God. Israel was divided into two kingdoms. The northern Kingdom of Israel was ruled by Jeroboam while Rehoboam ruled the southern Kingdom of Judah. They believed in God separately on their own and worshipped God, each on their own terms. The Temple appointed by God was in Jerusalem of Judah, which was governed by Rehoboam. Jeroboam established shrines in place of God's temple in the region governed by him. Thus, Jeroboam

misled the Israelites in the wrong direction. Jeroboam committed an incredibly dreadful sin before God by placing a golden calf inside each of those shrines.

We too can commit the sin of worshipping at a shrine instead of the temple and the sin of placing idols in our hearts instead of God. In other words, we can commit the sin of corrupting the gospel Truth of the water and the Spirit in order to fill the lusts in our hearts. God is telling us that the sin of deteriorating God's sacrificial system by following our own thoughts instead of the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit is to have Christianity degraded into a worldly religion, and that the end result of such a sin brings about our eternal dispute with God and causes us to drift away from Him. Thus, we must pray *"But deliver us from the evil one,"* and we should overcome the evil of believing in the untruth by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

Those who have not received the remission of sin are to serve the idols like Jeroboam for they do not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Moreover, some who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit can betray the Truth of salvation and mislead others in the wrong direction. We must overcome these. Those who have not yet been born again must receive the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Those who have already received the remission of sin through the water and the Spirit must deliver those who are still drowning in evil without having received the remission of sin.

It saddens me that there are so many Christians who have a similar faith to that of Jeroboam. Now, let's compare the faith of those who have fallen into the evil and oppose God like Jeroboam and the faith of those who truly

believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

The biological son of Solomon was Rehoboam. Hence, Rehoboam was a true royal who inherited the kingship as determined by God. However, this could not be said about Jeroboam. Since Jeroboam was merely a subordinate, it was only natural that he was anxious about the fact that there would be revolts against his reign for he was not from the royal family appointed by God. So, He felt that he could not help but oppose God in order to keep his kingship. Thus, Jeroboam ended up committing the great sin of opposing God in order to fulfill his own ambitions. In the end, he committed the great sin of completely altering the sacrificial system that God had established. But, he should have entered the Temple of God and worshipped Him according to the sacrificial system that God had given.

God has been instructing us about His salvation through the sacrificial system of the Tabernacle from the time of Exodus. The Israelites really worshipped God in accordance with the God-given law of the sacrificial system of the Tabernacle. Hence, they believed according to the sacrificial system of the Tabernacle and received the remission of their sins. The Israelites listened to the Word of God and followed His instructions.

The Israelites were governed under a theocracy. God was their King and all the people were a servant to God. That was the theocracy of Israel. Israel was such a country. Hence, to disobey the sacrificial system of the Tabernacle was to break the law of the nation. Moreover, it did not end as a violation of the law of the nation but constituted a sin of breaking the Law of God and opposing God. Especially, a king should never ignore the Law of God and he had to be the first one to adhere to the Law of God at all costs.

Hence, Rehoboam made offerings in accordance with the sacrificial system of the Tabernacle as spoken by God and received the remission of his sins. Rehoboam represents the righteous who have received the remission of sin by believing in the baptism Jesus received and the blood on the Cross. On the other hand, who would those who break the God spoken Law of the sacrificial system of the Tabernacle and commit unrighteous and unlawful acts like Jeroboam did be in today's world? They would be those who believe only in the blood of the Cross, while ignoring the baptism Jesus received from John the Baptist.

## Let's Look at the Wrong Faith before God

The gods of Jeroboam was two golden calves. He made two golden calves, placed one each in two different shrines, and taught his people that these golden calves were their gods. Jeroboam placed the golden calves inside the shrines and made the Israelites worship them saying, "This is the god that led you out of the land of Egypt."

What do these golden calves signify to us? They are none other than the 'power' and 'wealth' of humans. Our traditional sport of 'Korean wrestling' is also nothing more than boasting of one's strength. We boast about the human strength of the flesh and about our individual abilities. Humans like to boast about the power they possess. They make idols out of who have more money or power. In other words, a golden calf is a god to those who have not yet received the remission of sin.

Jeroboam worshipped the golden calf as his God. And he made 10 tribes that were under his rule worship the golden calf as their god. He

made them believe that the golden calf is their god and had them serve and follow it. If the king of a nation follows and believes in the will of God, his people will also follow God. On the other hand, if the king does not believe, his people will serve and follow the power of this world. Those who serve a king of the flesh cannot help but oppose God in their lives.

We can see these phenomena even inside the church of God. If the leader of one of God's Churches follows God, the saints of the Church will do the same. On the contrary, if the leader does not possess a sincere faith before God and chases the prosperity of the world, the saints of the Church will end up serving idols no matter how hard they try to keep their faith and live sincere lives toward God.

The Psalms say, *"It is like the precious oil upon the head,*

*Running down on the beard,*

*The beard of Aaron,*

*Running down on the edge of his garments" (Psalms 133:2).*

God lets His blessings flow down through a leader who fears God and follows His will. If the leader lives with a sincere and worthy faith before God, it will flow down to the saints and they will naturally be soaked in good faith and oil, that is, the Holy Spirit. However, if the heart of a leader who leads the saints is full of evil ambitions that oppose God, the saints will be soaked in corrupted and filthy oil and there will be no way to avoid receiving it. Hence, the leader of a Church must lead a proper life before God and lead the saints in a faith that delights God. For this reason, the saints should pray for their leaders that God leads and holds them. That in turn benefits the saints themselves.

King Rehoboam was different from King Jeroboam. Rehoboam believed and served

Jehovah God, the King of kings: he believed in God as God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and he believed that God had delivered them out from the land of Egypt. Like this, the God King whom Rehoboam believed in was quite different from the God whom King Jeroboam believed in.

## Differences between the Life in the Tabernacle and That of the Shrines

They had different places to worship God. How different are they? King Rehoboam made offerings inside the Temple. However, King Jeroboam made his offerings inside the shrines. The Temple was built according to the model of the Tabernacle that God had given them. God gave them the sacrificial system and ordered them to build the Tabernacle to serve Him according the sacrificial system. God placed priests inside the Tabernacle and had people worship in accordance with the Law, which He had appointed. However, the shrines were a sham. They offered the deteriorated sacrifice at the shrines, and the priests were not appointed according to the qualifications God had fixed. Everything at the shrines was done without consideration of God, although they were supposedly a place of worship for God.

The shrine was a similar place to our country's village shrine, which was called "Sunghwangdang." Sunghwangdang is built either in the middle of a hill or by a frequently traveled road by stacking up natural stones. Sometimes, a shaman comes to it and does his or her rituals. "Hui, hui! You lack in sincerity so that all the pumpkin pies are half-boiled." You hear the sound of drum beating. "Once the day breaks, all the food on the table is mine." The drum keeps beating "The sooner the sun rises,

the sooner they become mine… You lack in sincerity. Put more money on the table." And the drum keeps beating. Because the ghosts come to Sunghwangdang, people gather there with expectant hearts as if they were haunted by something.

The fact that Jeroboam and his people worshipped at the shrines indicates that they did not base their faith on the sacrificial system of God. This is a very crucial point for us who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit to know correctly. People do not recognize the difference between worshipping at the Temple and the shrines and consider the two as analogous. Yet, you must have faith based on a precise knowledge. The gap between worshipping at the Temple and at the shrines is as far as the heavens are higher than the earth. The difference is a matter of whether a person believes in the Truth or not. In the matters of knowing and believing in God, whether or not we believe in Him according to the sacrificial system, that is, the law of the remission of sin determines the fact that God would accept our faith or not. God made His people worship Him in the Tabernacle according to the sacrificial system He established. God accepted this method of worshipping. However, God would never accept worship offered at the shrines in sacrificial rituals established by humans. Rather, God said that He would send down fires on those places.

Jeroboam's evil deeds did not end with building shrines and placing golden calves inside of them. The sinful acts he committed before God knew no end and got more atrocious as time passed by. Jeroboam made priests out of those who were not Levites and placed them at the shrines. On the other hand, King Rehoboam made priests only out of the bloodline of Aaron

among the Levites in accordance with the sacrificial system as God established through Moses. Rehoboam placed those priests at the Temple so that they may make offerings to God and serve Him. Only the men from the tribe of Levites, especially the family members of Aaron were able to serve the holy duties that offer the remission of sin. They ordered the Israelites to put their hands on the sacrificial animals to transfer their sins and to receive the remission of their sins. On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest from Aaron's family laid his hands to the scapegoat according to the sacrificial system to transfer the yearly sins of all Israelites once and for all. He drew its blood and sprinkled it over the ark of the testimony seven times to pay off the wages of those sins. This is the gist of the sacrificial system that God had established.

Yet, Jeroboam appointed ordinary people who could not be qualified as priests by God. He set them on his own discretion. It was only natural that such priests would not know correctly the sacrificial system that God had established. They made an offering on their own terms at the shrines they built, which were not approved by God. It was enough to enrage God.

Because the purpose for worshipping God and the faith of these two people differed, such differences resulted in their different offerings. King Jeroboam worshipped his self-made golden calves as his God in order for the glory of his flesh such as fame, wealth, and power. On the other hand, King Rehoboam offered sacrifices with grateful heart according to the sacrificial system that God had established because he believed God who had saved and led his ancestors.

## We Have to Compare the Two Gospels and Believe Correctly

How can we discern the right faith from the fake one? We are able to know this most definitely when we compare those who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit to those who do not believe. That is, we are able to know who follows after the sins of Jeroboam and who inherited the faith of Rehoboam. Those who believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit now are followers of Rehoboam, and those who do not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit have fallen into the sins of Jeroboam.

Hence, we who believe in the baptism of Jesus and in His blood must pray that we do not fall into the sins of Jeroboam. And if we are already in such sins by any chance, we must take care of those sins through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The only gospel that is able to deliver us all from sinfulness is the God given true gospel of the remission of sin, which is the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

Let us believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and overcome all evil. Whether we have received the remission of sin or not, none of us should fall into the evil Jeroboam fell into. Those who have received the remission of all their sins by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit must pray as God taught us because they are still vulnerable to fall into such evil. All of us must overcome the evil Jeroboam fell into through our faith in the true gospel.

The shortcomings in our actions are not a problem before God. It is the lack of our faith that is a great problem. An enormous sin before God is for Jeroboam to make the Israelites offer unlawful worship to God. Such evil out of loss of one's faith is the problem. From time to time, Jeroboam himself entered the shrines and made

offerings for his people as their king. This was true foolishness out of his delusion that he is equal to God. Jeroboam did all things as he pleased.

There have been many perversions to the Christian faith, which believes in God. We must realize that such deteriorations started with the alteration of the sacrificial system by Jeroboam in order to keep his kingship and powers: Although worships had to be offered at the Temple (or the Tabernacle), he worshipped at the shrines. In place of the ark of testimony, he substituted it with two golden calves. Although only the Levites could become priests according to the Law established by God, he made priests out of ordinary people. This was a great evil before God. However, unfortunately, there are those inside today's Christianity who commit such evil.

Those Christians who commit such evil are chasing only the prosperity in their own insatiable flesh. They pray, "Please, make my grandson prosper. Make my descendants prosper. Let me succeed in my business." The successes they ask for are all related to matters of the flesh, and most of them are money related. Hence, although they may shout the name of God and seek Him, what they serve in reality is not the true God but the golden calves of Jeroboam. The symbol of power is the golden calf! People try to gain power by taking advantage of the name of God. Hence, they pray to God to give them powers. They pray for the power of the flesh.

They do not worship in accordance with the sacrificial system as determined by God. They do not fight the battles of faith as Christian soldiers born again through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Although they ritualistically call the name of God and make offerings to Him, they still only seek God for their own benefits in the

flesh while pretending to believe in God. Precisely speaking, they pretend to believe in God, rely on God, pray to God, and worship God in order to fulfill their own goals. This is the greatest evil before God. Therefore, we have to pray that we do not fall into such evil. "Lord, Keep us from such evil." Our Lord told us to pray as such.

There are those who have first been delivered from such evil and now worship before God, depend solely on God, and follow God. They are the righteous that had received the remission of sin through their faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. They despise evil and those who have fallen into evil as they work by their faith. Still, as those who have received the remission of sin ahead of others, they share the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which delivers such people from evil, and turns them around toward God. Of course, they do so by opposing evil and following after the goodness of God.

If we said with our mouth, "Deliver us from evil," but followed after evil in our actions, there wouldn't be a greater evil than this. We should not fall into the works of evil that is unbeneficial to us nor should we run our mouth without any follow up action. Rather, we should live by our faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit as we simultaneously pray to God to deliver us from evil and actually follow up by doing the work of God.

There are many Jeroboam-like Christians who have fallen into sins by believing that they can be born again through their faith in the blood of the Cross. However, the true gospel is the gospel of the water and the Spirit. We who have the true faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit must rebuke and oppose those who claim the blood of the Cross as the only absolute Truth of salvation.

"Deliver us from the evil one." We have been delivered from Jeroboam's sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Still, there are those who have fallen into the evil like Jeroboam but yet do not realize their sins. We must rebuke and oppose them in the name of Jesus Christ. That is because we should never fall into the same evil again. We can win over and escape from such evil by walking with Jesus Christ. There is no other way to do so. We are able to do so just by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

## The Gospel of the Water and the Spirit Is the Truth That Blots Out All the Sins of the People

Our Lord came to this world in the human flesh through the Virgin Mary. When He turned 30 years of age, He took all our sins onto Himself by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist. Our Lord received the baptism from John the Baptist by which He took all our sins and then immersed into the water. Then, He arose from the water. As Jesus arose from the water, the heavens opened up and God the Father testified to His Son: *"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).*

Jesus Christ was born into this world through the body of the Virgin Mary in order to deliver us from all the sins of this world. Our Lord came to this world as our Savior in order to deliver the entirety of humanity from all their sins and from the Devil. The reason Jesus Christ received the baptism when He turned the age of thirty was to fulfill the prophecies of the Old Testament. Our Lord voluntarily received the baptism from John the Baptist in order to take away all the sins of all humanity including you and me. He completely

blotted out all our sins by fulfilling the purpose for His coming through receiving His baptism. He received the baptism in order to take away all our sins as He intended when He came to this world.

Many Christians wrongfully believe that Jesus took the sins of the world on the Cross. They don't know the Truth of the baptism Jesus received before He was crucified on the Cross. Jesus Christ went to the Cross prepared to be crucified because He had already taken away all our sins through His baptism. Because He had received the baptism, He shed His blood on the Cross prepared to receive the judgments for all our sin in our place. In the place of our old selves who were soaked in sins and deserved the judgments for all our sins, Jesus took away all the sins of the world through His baptism. Hence, He ransomed the price for our sin by His precious blood. Jesus died on the Cross paying the ransom for all of our sins, which He took away through His baptism He received on His innocent and immaculate body. Our Lord received the baptism and died of the judgment for our sins to pay the ransom for the price of our sins.

Jesus was resurrected from the dead and ascended into Heaven. He now sits on the right hand of the Father. He is waiting for His time to come, as He watches us with care from above. Our Lord is waiting for the time of judgment to divide between those who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, which Jesus Himself has accomplished, and those who believe only in the blood of the Cross or do not believe in Him at all. He hopes that everyone receives the remission of sin through the gospel of the water and the Spirit and that everyone enters the Kingdom of God with a big applause. However,

those who have fallen into the evil of Jeroboam by holding onto their ambitions and thoughts will receive the judgment for their sins by God. Hence, such people must turn around from evil quickly.

Jesus Christ died crucified on the Cross having already taken all our sins upon Himself through His baptism. Put differently, Jesus Christ took all our sins upon Himself through His baptism before He was crucified on the Cross having received the judgment for all our sins. We must know that this is why He died on the Cross. Also, we must know and believe in the reason for which Jesus received His baptism.

As we receive the remission of sin and live out our faith, we must apply Jesus' death on the Cross to our lives of faith. When we detest ourselves, when we are too tired to overcome ourselves, and when we are unable to overcome the ambitions of our flesh, we have to apply the Word "Our old persons have died on the Cross" to ourselves. We have to apply it in such times.

The Apostle Paul said that he had been crucified with Christ: *"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).* Along with his faith in Jesus' baptism, the Apostle Paul believed that Christ's crucifixion was to crucify himself to death. He could believe that he had been crucified with Christ when Jesus had died on the Cross having already been united with Him by his faith in Jesus' baptism.

We must apply this Word to our lives. "My old self before I was born again by the water and the Spirit—that is, all my value system, will, ego, and habits—has died along with Christ. Hence, I have become a new person by believing in the gospel Word of the water and the Spirit. I was

born again after I believed in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. All my sins were transferred through His baptism, and all my old paradigms and values and relationships have already ended on the Cross." We must believe by applying this to our lives.

Our faith in the Cross stands firm truthfully as we have faith in Jesus' baptism that had all our sins transferred onto the body of Jesus Christ. Our Lord received the baptism and then received the judgment for all our sins by shedding His blood on the Cross. If He had not taken away all our sins through His baptism, there would be no need for Him to die. Moreover, in such a case, His death would have been meaningless. However, our Lord and Savior ransomed the price for our sins by shedding His blood on the Cross that He taken away all our sins by receiving the baptism from John the Baptist.

Jesus was resurrected from the dead. Jesus' resurrection was the final evidence that He was our Lord and perfect Savior. Through our Lord's resurrection, we came to believe that we have become new creations, that our bodies will be resurrected on the day of our Lord's second coming, and that our Lord is our very perfect Savior.

1 John 5:6 states, *"This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth."* And it continues, *"And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one" (1 John 5:8).* The water (the baptism of Jesus), the blood of the Cross, and the Holy Spirit (the Divinity of Jesus) have made us the children of God who have been perfectly delivered from all our sins. These constitute the most righteous work of delivering believers of our Lord from evil

completely. Our prayers "Deliver us from the evil one" have been answered through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Those of you who have not yet received the remission of sin must overcome all evil by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

People can still fall into the sins of Jeroboam even after they have received the remission of sin. But, they must overcome this through their faith of conversion. They must escape from this trap. They must kick it away. If anyone ignores the baptism Jesus received, we must realize that this is the sin of standing against God and keep away from him.

As a matter of fact, today's Christianity is stupendously deteriorated. Christians think that they have perfect faith by just believing in the blood of the Cross. They say that their faith is well because they believe in Jesus as their Savior, Jesus as the Son of God, and His death on the Cross. However, that is not a complete faith. Moreover, if we look deep down into their hearts, what is their motive of their faith? It is nothing more than to chase a golden calf. They come to their respective churches in hopes that they will be well off in their flesh. Still, they don't recognize the enormous evil that they have fallen into. Hence, they commit outrageous atrocities continuously. What is worse is that they are so blunt without any remorse.

But, what does the Bible say about the true salvation? The Bible says that not only does it include the blood of the Cross but also our Lord's coming into the world and His reception of His baptism in order to deliver the entirety of all humanity from all their sins once and for all. Jesus took all our sins upon His own body by receiving His baptism and submitted Himself for the judgment of all our sins on the Cross. For our sake, our Lord offered Himself quietly just as a

sheep before its shearers is silent (Isaiah 53:7). He had taken all our sins upon Himself through His baptism. He shed His blood on the Cross and He died quietly, and was resurrected from the dead to become our true Lord and Savior.

## Even the Old Testament Testifies to the Gospel of the Water and the Spirit As the Truth

This Truth is clearly revealed in the Old Testament as well. In the Old Testament times, before offerings of sacrifices could be made inside the Tabernacle, the sinners had to lay their hands on the sacrificial lamb or goat and transfer their sins onto the sacrifice. In the Old Testament, the blood of a sacrifice was spilled only after the laying on of the hands inside the Tabernacle. The blood from the sacrifice would then be sprinkled onto the horn of the altar and its flesh had to be burnt on the altar.

A sacrificial animal must be without any blemish. It had to be closely examined before being offered. It could not have any blemishes. Animals that have many scars, walk with a limp, have bald spots, are blind, are missing a limb, have fractured bones, or have twisted bowels cannot be used for the purpose of sacrifice.

The wicked Jeroboam made offerings mimicking the sacrificial system determined by God for the remission of sin. He worshipped at the shrines. People did bring animals to the priests so that the priests can make offerings on their behalf. However, the animals were blind, walked with a limp, were disfigured, and were too revolting for those who brought them to eat at their own homes. And as for the priests, he elected ordinary people instead of Levites.

Hence, in Malachi, God's wrath erupted. *"Behold, I will rebuke your descendants And spread refuse on your faces, The refuse of your solemn feasts; And one will take you away with it. Then you shall know that I have sent this commandment to you, That My covenant with Levi may continue" (Malachi 2:3-4).* "You should just forget about making any kind of offering at all. Do not disgrace My name. You are so wretched that you have already received your curses. Those who do not fear Me should no longer bother to disgrace My name but leave Me altogether. You who commit the sins of Jeroboam! If you do not turn away and cleanse your hearts, you will be cursed and thrown into the everlasting fires." This was what God has given warning to us over and over.

Yet, this sin did not end with the evil of Jeroboam. After he died, his descendants committed the same evil. His son did as his father, as did the son of his son and so forth. Furthermore, all this evil was spread to the people of the southern kingdom governed by King Rehoboam. In the following days, true worship and false worship were all mixed into confusion, and both Judah and Israel collapsed. They were all destroyed before God. God used General Titus of Rome to wipe them all out. His army captured the Israelites and sold them to far away nations and scattered them. All of this happened because God was infuriated with them. The Temple was also absolutely destroyed as not one stone was left on another (Luke 21:6).

Hence, the Temple no longer exists in this world. There also is no Tabernacle in this world. No one knows where the ark of testimony is. They had to offer the sacrifice according to the Law determined by God. They had to acknowledge, respect, fear, and love God. Then, how could God receive glory from them, help

them, and be their God, if they only had used, abused, and belittled God for their own glory and honor of the flesh? Instead, God scattered them and made them a nation without their own land for a long period of time. This is God's judgment and curse to those who have fallen into evil.

We may fall into evil because of the weakness of our bodies. Yet, we must overcome it by our faith. Christian soldiers must overcome whatever evil they may face by their faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Some people who have fallen into the sins of Jeroboam may say, "I have received the remission of sin, and I don't commit any sin because I have died in Christ. I do not bear any sinful fruits of the flesh since I am full of the Holy Spirit." However, such a faith is far apart from the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. The righteous living by the true faith cannot associate with those people.

Dear fellow believers, we commit sins in this world because of our weak flesh, although we have received the remission of sin through the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Yet, at those times, we are able to overcome evil by our faith, transfer even those sins, and cleanse ourselves completely by ruminating on the gospel of the water and the Spirit because we have the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

## Even the Believers of the Gospel of the Water and the Spirit Keep Sinning Until the Day They Die

By believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, our hearts have become clean. And as Christian soldiers, we have become righteous tools of God's works. We can become anew every day by ruminating of the gospel of the

water and the Spirit even though we cannot but commit sins everyday out of our weaknesses. Therefore, we should not forget the gospel of the water and the Spirit even for a moment. Even if we forget it just for a split second, that would be enough for our hearts to be stained with the sins of this world. Although that would not make us sinners again, we would still have problems with our own consciences.

Even the righteous ones that received the remission of sin are not immune from committing sins. It is a matter of fact that even they commit personal sins. Even God Himself said that there is not a single righteous person who does not commit any sin at all (Ecclesiastes 7:20). It is through the power of the gospel of the water and the Spirit that we have no sin despite the fact that we still commit sins. It is also the blessing from God as well as a hidden secret of the Truth. Dear fellow believers, do we have sins or not despite the fact that we continuously commit personal sins? We are sinless. Hence, this is the secret of the salvation, which God has given us.

Still, some people dare to say, "Since I have been crucified with Christ on the Cross to death and have been resurrected alongside Him, I no longer commit any sin." Saying thus would be an act against God out of one's great error of thought.

## The Truth of the Laver Prepared for the Sins of the Priests

Inside the court of the Tabernacle, the laver of bronze was placed between the altar and the Holy Place. Why would God have placed the laver in that specific spot? God did not place it because He had nothing else to put in that place.

When the priests made burnt offerings, he first cut the sacrifice into pieces, removed its intestines, took all the fat that was on the entrails, and placed its fat with its flesh on the fire. They would do as they were told by God by placing the sacrificial offering on the altar and setting afire to it as a burnt offering. As they were cutting the sacrifice into pieces, they easily became covered with filthy parts from the sacrifice. If they entered into the place where God dwelled in their filthiness as such, they would be stricken dead. Even if he is a priest and has offered many sacrifices before God, God would kill such a filthy person without any hesitation. If a person fearlessly entered the presence of God with their filth, God killed that person in an instant. Hence, the laver was placed in front of the Holy Place so that the priests could wash away the filth that tainted them at the altar of burnt offering before entering the presence of God inside the Tabernacle.

The laver of bronze was a big brass bowl filled with water to its brim. Why did they need such a laver inside the court of the Tabernacle? Was the laver placed inside the court of the Tabernacle so that they could raise all kinds of fish in it? No, it was not. The laver was placed inside the court of the Tabernacle and filled with water so that the priests could wash the filth away in case excrement, urine, or any other filthy stuff accidentally defiled them. It was there so that they could enter the high presence of God in their cleanliness.

As we serve the gospel of the water and the Spirit in this world, we come across a myriad of happenings. Sometimes we get ill tempered when we get preoccupied with the works of the gospel. At some people's behavior, we are lost for words. Others act in a way we would not be able to understand in a million years. When we see

those who are of no use to the service of the gospel and are rather a hindrance for this cause, we get infuriated and curse words almost escape our lips.

For an example, I can tell you an episode at our printing house. I once signed a contract with a printing house in our city to print our books. Our agreed upon day for publication came, so I asked them whether the books were ready. They said that the books were ready. Hence, I trusted their words and went there to pick them up. To my surprise, the books were not ready yet. The same kind of mishap happened three times.

This infuriated me. I could no longer put up with this. "Why did you tell us to come, if the prints are not even ready yet? You should have rather told me that the work was going to take a little longer instead of making me go back and forth several times for nothing. Are you going to keep lying like this? If you haven't finished yet, then you should have called and let us know. Why do you make us go back and forth like this? And why are you making excuses for not meeting the deadline? If you continue like this, how could we trust you with any work?" Then, he asked me why I was so upset and said that he could somehow do that anyway. I was infuriated even further to hear that.

Dear fellow believers, I died through Christ on the Cross giving Him my trust. The Apostle Paul said, "I have been crucified with Christ." We need this phrase when we are unable to control our impulses of the flesh any more. When we are so angry that we are unable to control our temper, we think to ourselves, "I have died in Christ. I shouldn't act this way, if I have died and met God." I stop my anger in the faith that I have died already.

Do you or do you not commit personal sins? Of course, you commit personal sins. The works

need to be done, and it's not like they are works of evil either. But we cannot but commit sins when someone hinders us in carrying out the work of God. A person filled with the Holy Spirit may appear to commit no sin while he is filled with the Holy Spirit, but the very moment he leans slightly over to his flesh he falls into the lust of the flesh. As Jesus was simultaneously both God and human, we too possess both the Holy Spirit as well as our human nature. As a matter of fact, our human nature weighs more heavily on us. Jesus only borrowed the flesh of man and in essence remained totally as God. On the other hand, we are merely sinless in our hearts by being born again of water and the Spirit, but we are born as sinners from our birth.

The Holy Spirit testifies that we have no sin in our hearts because we have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. "I have blotted out all your sins through the water and the blood. You are a child of God." The Holy Spirit inside our hearts teaches us the discernment of right and wrong as we read the Bible. Still, we have our flesh. Sometimes, we play so hard that we forget what time it is and miss a worship service. At other times, we get so fatigued from partying all night that we fail to wake up early for morning prayers. Like this, humans are restricted by their weak flesh and by time as well. Because of such weaknesses we have, our Lord came to this world and received His baptism from John the Baptist in order to deliver such people from their sins.

We don't have any sin even if we would not have pray loud with screaming voices like the fanatics do. We don't have any sin if we only believe according to the law of God's salvation regardless of who we are; we don't have any sin if we believe the Truth as it is, that Jesus came to

this world and blotted out all our sins once and for all according to the will of the Father. But, there are so many angels of light that actually are not from God. There are those who try to become even more holy because it is insufficient for them that our Lord has blotted out all their sins. We call them angels. The Bible calls them as "angels of light" (2 Corinthians 11:14). We don't call them just any angels but demon possessed angels.

We should be grateful in our faith since our Lord has blotted out all our sins by the gospel of the water and the Spirit, remitted all our sins, and sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts. Yet, our flesh itself cannot become holy till the day we die.

If we never committed any sin, would we look at other people as humans? We would probably look at them as if they were beasts. Back in the old days, servants had to shout, "Stay back. Stay back," when their noble masters went for a walk. Then, ordinary peasants would bow at the nobles as they passed by them. If our flesh were perfect, we would act like and be treated like the nobilities. We would yell, "Get away from me. Stay back," at the sinners and look down on them as if they were some kind of bug.

However, because we still have our own flesh, we are able to understand, meet, and share the gospel with the sinners in this world. Our Lord came to this world in the flesh of man so that He could be with us. He came to this world in the flesh of man. He took away our sins and bore them onto Himself by receiving His baptism from John the Baptist. By dying on the Cross, He delivered us from all of our sins.

Dear fellow believers, we should never act in the extreme. We have to believe within the boundaries determined by God. To go beyond or fall short would be fatal to your salvation. To turn in such ways is to commit the sins of

Jeroboam. Would you like to become someone like Jeroboam?

We have to pray, *"But deliver us from the evil one"* because we are in danger of falling into evil. We cannot lead our own ways because we have our weak bodies in the flesh. Hence, there is an order determined by God, and we have those who are ahead of us as well as the spiritual leaders. What use would the Church be if we were so perfect that we did not need a trusted leader since we could be our own leader? What use would the church of God and the Kingdom of God to this earth? What use would we have for our fellow saints as well as those who are ahead of us?

The Bible says, *"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is*

*For brethren to dwell together in unity!*
*It is like the precious oil upon the head,*
*Running down on the beard,*
*The beard of Aaron,*
*Running down on the edge of his garments" (Psalms 133:1-2).*

It is truly very delightful to be with our Lord having faith in our Lord. Because every righteous person who has received the remission of sin stays together, we can be soaked to the skin with His grace and with the precious oil, the Holy Spirit. God truly delights when the saints who have received the remission of sin unite their hearts in the law of faith determined by God. He delights to see us receive the remission of sin within the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and spread that faith.

A person does not stop committing sins by any means just because he has received the remission of sin. It is a great evil deserving a curse from God to say that I never commit any more sin. Although it may look noble to say, "I never commit any more sin after I was born again,"

how false would this be in front of God? Who on earth does not possess an evil heart and commit any sin? Still, it is an act of deceit before God to pretend to be noble and not to commit any more sin. We must realize how sinful it is to act in such a way before God. To pretend to be too noble and too holy is a direct challenge against God.

Do you know why a certain angel became the Devil? It happened because that angel challenged God and tried to become holier than God. Out of its own pride, that angel, that was a servant of God, degenerated into the Devil, which opposes God and deserves the eternal damnation from God. We should never fall into such a sin by keeping our faith wholeheartedly. And if we have fallen into such sin momentarily by any chance, we should quickly get out of such sin by our faith.

We have to acknowledge our fundamental nature as well as the Truth of the Word of God. Hence, the Lord's Prayer teaches us to pray, *"But deliver us from the evil one."* That is so because we can fall into the evil of Jeroboam at any moment. We have to be honest before God and acknowledge ourselves as we are. We should try to give glory to God for taking upon Himself all our weaknesses. Also, we should always meditate and practice in our lives the gospel of the water and the blood of Jesus who died for us.

You and I should believe and share the gospel of the water and the Spirit not passively but actively and progressively. We have to let those, who do not believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit but only believe that the blood of the Cross are sufficient for the remission of their sin, know that their action is a grave sin against God. In order to do so, we have to first ruminate on the gospel of the water and the Spirit on a daily basis. When we stay strong in our faith by doing

the work of God and taking our daily bread, we can be compassionate to people who are suffering from their many sins and lead them to receive the remission of sin by sharing the gospel. If a person insists on staying on course to follow Jeroboam despite our numerous attempts to share the gospel of the water and the Spirit, we should let him be and stay as far away from him as possible. If we keep company with such a person, we may get tainted with the evil of worshipping as Jeroboam did.

Those who do not know how serious such a sin is will receive a due judgment. As the old saying goes, a puppy fears no tiger. Likewise, there are those who make fun of God with their infant knowledge of God. They have no idea how scary God really is.

This is the last phrase of the Lord's Prayer. *"And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."* The Lord's Prayer teaches us to pray as the above because we are all capable of doing so.

How holy could a person ever be? No matter how holy we pretend to be, our fundamental nature never changes. It is funny to see people claim to be holy. Instead of having correct faith in their hearts, people nonsensically say that they are holy and no longer commit any sin because they have died in Christ.

Who in the world does not commit any sin? Who in the world is perfect in his flesh? Even the greatest people in history all committed numerous sins and eventually died. If people did not commit any more sin, what use would the laver serve? Also, why would Jesus have to come to this world and receive His baptism, if that was the case? Jesus could have skipped the baptism and went right on to the Cross, saying, "I am dying for you, so believe in Me. And don't commit sin any more." Yet, Jesus received His

baptism before He died on the Cross.

Why did Jesus receive the baptism? Did He not receive the baptism in order to take away all of our sins? He received the baptism in order to take the sins we commit throughout our entire lives as well as the sins the entirety of all humanity committed throughout the whole of human history. He remitted all the sins of the world once and for all by taking all those sins onto Himself through His baptism. Our Lord took all those sins upon Himself once and for all because He was able. But we are weak and, thus, continue to commit sins on a daily basis. Hence, we who commit sins everyday are in need of the effect of the gospel that declares our Lord has taken all our sins once and for all. The gospel of the water and the Spirit through which Jesus delivered us once and for all is effective everyday for us who commit sins daily. Of course, I am not telling you to commit any sin intentionally.

## As Soldiers of Christ, We Have to Deliver Those Who Have Fallen into Evil

We should rebuke those who have fallen into evil a couple of times. If they persist in holding a different faith from us, we should stay away from them. How could we coexist with them if they hold a different faith from us? We have no other choice but to stay away from them.

Don’t be fooled by people who say they no longer sin since they have died in Christ. They are luring you to make tools to fulfill the greed of their flesh out of you. “I am holy as such. Follow me.” Are you going to follow such a person? How could a person claim to be perfect whom no

longer commits any sin when God is watching him? It doesn't make any sense. Did we not receive salvation because we were too weak with many flaws? Then, how can they claim to be holy and perfect? We have become holy only because the holy God has made us holy in spirit. We have to remember that we are not holy out of our own merits.

Not only is it a problem of the evangelical churches but many individuals all over the place also claim that believing in the blood of the Cross by itself will blot out all their sins and that they no longer commit any sin. There are also so many of those who say that John the Baptist failed without a word of mention about the baptism of Jesus. Others say that the way to salvation can be found in many different religions. Still others are content to say that this and that doctrine from various Christian denominations are all correct. This is to say that the worship offered by both Jeroboam and Rehoboam were both correct. How could anyone say that the worship by Jeroboam was correct? If the two of them were indeed both correct, why did God repeatedly say that someone had fallen into the sins of Jeroboam?

After Jeroboam passed away, his son became king. His son like his father committed the sins of Jeroboam before God. Not only did the king practice unrighteousness and fall into the sins of Jeroboam but he also made his people worship in such a way. Hence, the entire population fell into the sins of Jeroboam, putting all the Israelites to their death.

Hence, the entire Israelite nation was ruined. Not only were they ruined spiritually but also in their flesh as well. Hence, most of them wandered here and there without their own country for thousands of years. Although they have now recovered their homeland, they are still

of hostile terms with their neighbors while they are constantly fighting with the Palestinians. However, the most conservative of the Jews are insisting on restoring the Tabernacle of the old times in all its minute details. They still don't accept or acknowledge Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

We should not fall into such evil. And we have to overcome by faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, if we are not to fall into such evil. We have to kick away such evil by our faith. We have to boldly overcome all the sins of Jeroboam, which enrages God and draws us apart from Him. "A human does not commit any sin if he once receives the remission of sin." If someone says something that a human could not possibly say, we have to cross it out from our hearts. That is, we have to ignore it by thinking, "Yeah, you are smart. Be holy and perfect all by yourself."

Soldiers of Christ must seek what is beneficial to the gospel. People say things and act in such a way because they seek their own interests over the interests of the gospel. They do not walk the wrong path by themselves but lure many other people of God. Soldiers of Christ should examine their faith daily through the Church. "This is what I have realized. Is this the correct faith?" Once we have examined it and found out that we believed incorrectly, we have to throw it away. And then, we have to know and believe correctly so that we can share the correct faith with others. If we don't heed the Bible and believe in the true faith that comes into our minds, we would be standing in the fast lane to our eventual death.

"I will not commit any other sin." This is not what we the born-again can say. "I will not leave You, my Lord, if that means that I should pay with my own life." The Apostle Peter who made such bold determinations cursed and betrayed

Jesus before long. If it were right that we should not sin after we have received the remission of sin, Peter's faith would have been wrong. Not only that but all of Jesus' disciples who committed sins out of their weaknesses would have hold a wrong faith. Yet, they shared the gospel all over the world as soldiers of Christ, lived in accordance with the will of God as faithful servants, and offered their lives to the end as some have been martyred. Truly, whose faith is wrong here?

In Catholicism, there is a person by the name of Saint Thomas Francis. He gave away to the poor and needy everything he had, even to the last garment of underclothes, and entered a monastery completely naked. People say that he was a saint. Yet, God calls such people children of the Devil. How could such a person be praised as a saint? How could an act that raised one's own status instead of that of our Lord be considered as pious? The sin of lifting up oneself is the sin of Jeroboam, which God will judge accordingly.

He who does not lift up God although he believes in God has fallen into evil. Whether a person has done right or wrong so far, God is pleased with him only if he cherishes the righteousness of our Lord, meditates on the gospel of the water and the Spirit, and gives praise to Jesus everyday.

There are times in our lives when we commit sins and do evil deeds. At those instances, the correct thing for us to do is to immediately confess our wrongdoings, admit the sins we have committed, and to ruminate on the gospel Word of the water and the Spirit. "I am truly sinless because our Lord has already taken even these sins through His baptism and blood. Once again, I thank You and give all the glory before You." Daily, we have to check our faith, confess our

faith, and be courageous before our Lord as soldiers of the Christ. Our Lord has given us faith to sanctify us.

Our Lord has given us the Lord's Prayer so that we may all live in this way. Our Lord who delights in such living has taught us the Lord's Prayer. Our Lord has taught us the Lord's Prayer so that we may live by the faith in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Of course, this does not mean that enumerating prayer titles constitutes the Lord's Prayer. Since our Lord has clearly shown us how we should live our lives through the Lord's Prayer, true faith would require us to believe in what our Lord has told us and to actually live our lives accordingly. Dear fellow believers, do you believe?

We give thanks to God. Tonight, the newly born-again from our gospel class who have just received their remission of sin will give their testimonies. Also, our children will show their talents. Tonight, we are going to have a celebration. A celebration of the 2002 Summer Discipleship Training Camp! I feel like shooting some firecrackers. I give thanks to God for having us experience such celebrations on a daily basis. ✉

# The Millennial Kingdom Awaits the Righteous

**<Matthew 6:10>**
**"Your kingdom come.**
**Your will be done**
**On earth as it is in heaven."**

I would like to extend my congratulations to those of you who have resolved the problem of sin in your hearts by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. To those who have received the remission of sin, great blessings await them. All of you who have just received the remission of sin may have appeared your age in the flesh, but your spiritual age is not much more than that of a newborn. Your bodies in the flesh probably have grown old being raised in the world for tens of years, but remember that your spiritual age is not even a few days old because you are just a newborn in spirit.

Hence, there are so many things you do not know right after you have been born again. Although you believe that you have become without any sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, you are like little children spiritually. There are so many things you have not seen yet as well as things that you do not comprehend. Hence, those who will teach you the new spiritual world are your older spiritual brothers and sisters. Hence, we need the Church and the born again saints and the servants of God within the Church. I urge you to remember this.

I am guessing that there are those of you who would have liked to tell your testimonies of salvation but did not get a chance tonight to do so. Those of you who would like to tell your

testimonies of the amazing grace you have received here should do so at your respective Churches. I know that many of you are so glad that you have received the remission of sin and would like to share your testimonies with us, but we have time constraints that do not allow us to listen to every single one of those stories. So, you should give your testimonies at your respective Churches. As you give your testimony of salvation, your faith will strengthen and you will come to give thanks before God.

A great amount of time has passed while we were listening to the testimonies of the newborns, so I will do my best to make my sermon short. Of course, I cannot make any guarantees though. This evening is the very last of this Discipleship Training Camp. After tonight's service, we will go back to our rooms and eat some snacks and go to sleep. Tomorrow morning, we will have a communion service and, then, it is back to home. We will all go back to our respective Churches and continue to serve our Lord as the soldiers of Christ.

Hence, I would like to share with you tonight about what it means for the Kingdom of God to be realized on earth as it is realized in Heaven through the Word from Matthew chapter 6, verse 10, which says, *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."* I have shared with you the Word of the Lord's Prayer during this Discipleship Training Camp. I would like to end my sermons on the Lord's Prayer with tonight's Scripture Passage.

Today's Scripture passage said that the Kingdom of God should be realized here in this world as it is in Heaven. Our Lord has taught us to pray, *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."* The Kingdom of God clearly contains the soldiers of God as well as the government of God. To say that such as

Kingdom of God will be realized here on earth implies that the Kingdom of God will be realized as the Millennial Kingdom.

Our Lord has established the system for the year of Jubilee every 50 years. On that year, the Israelites proclaimed liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants. Each of them had to return all land to its original owner. In this year of the Jubilee, they neither had to sow nor reap what grew of its own accord, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine. The Lord God also told us to have full rest on every seventh day, that is, the Sabbath Day. These are the foreshadowers of the Millennial Kingdom to come.

## The Millennial Kingdom Will Draw Near for the Righteous

What I would like to share with you today is that the Millennial Kingdom will be built in this world. God will build the Millennial Kingdom on this world.

"Will our Lord really build the Kingdom of God in this world? This world has become such a desolate place by the destruction of nature that underneath, on top of, and above the ground as well as the air have all become desolate. How then could the Kingdom of God descend upon this world?" Even Christians have many questions about these matters. Hence, they imagine, "Would God not build another planet somewhere and do something with it?"

However, in today's Scripture passage, our Lord clearly said, *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven."* Our

Lord will fulfill all of His Word of promise that He will build His Kingdom in this world, living along with the righteous as kings for a thousand years and rewarding the righteous for all the hardships they have suffered in this world. “You will rule as kings in this world alongside Me.” He promised us thus and will fulfill it.

“Is this truly possible?” We frequently come to feel this way because we cannot comprehend it with our human intellect.

Some scientists say that the age of the Earth is about 5 billion years. According to the Bible, from Adam to Noah, from Noah to Abraham, and then to the times of Malachi, the history of humans in the Old Testament is some four thousand years. If we estimate the New Testament times at about two thousand years, this world is approximately six thousand years old. People question the validity of the biblical history because its time frame does not coincide with the theory about the 5 billion years old Earth. Yet, the Bible is never wrong.

God created the universe and everything in it from the first to the sixth day. The concept of a day in this biblical passage does not refer to the common understanding of a day we have now but rather these days are accounted for in God’s concept of time. Hence, the discord between scientific findings about the age of the Earth and the biblical account are not strictly in contrast. The Bible is the infallible Word of God.

Then, we cannot deny the fact that the Kingdom of God will descend on this land. Hence, we cannot help but to be curious about how every thing is going to take place. “I know that the Kingdom of God is up above in Heaven. What I do not understand is how the Kingdom of God is going to be realized in this world?” It may be absurd from our perspectives, but our Lord is able to do anything.

Tens and millions of years ago, dinosaurs and huge animals roamed around on this earth. However, these days we are able to see them only in the forms of fossils. They have not survived to these days. Although the theory of evolution maintains that only the strong survive, only the weak animals and we humans have survived nowadays. Of course, we cannot deny the fact that dinosaurs once existed in this world. The time of dinosaurs passed and a new world dawned upon us. That new world lasted until Noah's flood, and it was then covered again by flooding of water. The world that resulted out of the flood is what we have now.

God created the universe and everything in it. If such a Creator Lord would come to this world once, He would be able to make all things new with His almighty power. In this world which our Lord will make anew, the Kingdom of Christ will be realized. The realization of a kingdom governed by God Himself is possible because our Lord is the very Creator of this universe and everything in it.

The Millennial Kingdom ruled by God will take place in this world only once for exactly a thousand years. After that, God will judge once more, sending those who deserve to enter into the eternal Kingdom of Heaven and judging those who deserve such a fate. All of this has been testified to many times both in the Old and New Testaments.

## Then, Is It Possible for the Kingdom of God to Be Realized in This World?

Let's look at the Word of God from Isaiah chapter 35. If we look at the Word from Isaiah chapter 35 verses 1 and 2, it says that the land will go through a transformation:

*"The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them,*

*And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;*

*It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice,*

*Even with joy and singing.*

*The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,*

*The excellence of Carmel and Sharon.*

*They shall see the glory of the LORD,*

*The excellency of our God."*

Our God has actually blotted out the sins of our souls by the water and the Spirit and adopted us to be His own children previously. Also, that is exactly what we are experiencing now as well as what we have already seen. Not only that, but our Lord has also promised us the renewal of material reality in this world. He will make His promise a reality in the coming future.

The Bible says, *"The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose" (Isaiah 35:1).* The glory of Lebanon and the beauty of Sharon will be restored in the fields. This land will know such glory and honor once again. Although the land, the water, and the air of this world is all contaminated by radioactive materials, chemical materials, and all kinds of waste and filth, all things will be changed anew by the almighty Lord. If our almighty Lord comes to this world and says, "All things, become new!" all things indeed will become new.

Hence, it is said that we will "see the glory of the Lord." Even from the Old Testament, we are promised that our Lord will realize the Kingdom of God in this world as it is already realized in Heaven. When this becomes realized, we will see it with our own eyes. When our Lord has turned this world into the Kingdom of God in the way of the Millennial Kingdom, we will see what our

Lord does to this world and to us the weak people.

Isaiah chapter 35:3-4 states,

*"Strengthen the weak hands,*
*And make firm the feeble knees.*
*Say to those who are fearful-hearted,*
*'Be strong, do not fear!*
*Behold, your God will come with vengeance,*
*With the recompense of God;*
*He will come and save you.'"*

It is during the Millennial Kingdom that our Lord will make this world new and build the Kingdom of God in this world. Our Lord, who has cleansed us the believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, will change even our bodies of the flesh into that of a child of God by having us participate in the first resurrection. Thus, He admonishes us with the Word, saying, *"Strengthen the weak hands,*

*And make firm the feeble knees.*
*Say to those who are fearful-hearted,*
*'Be strong, do not fear!*
*Behold, your God will come with vengeance,*
*With the recompense of God;*
*He will come and save you.'"*

To say that our Lord Himself will come to this world and restore things means that He will make everything new. Also, it is said that He will show His vengeance. That means that our Lord will take revenge against those who have tortured the righteous.

In chapter 13 of the Book of Revelation, the Antichrist appears and martyrs the righteous. The Antichrist will torture us the righteous until the end to our eventual death. Still, soon our Lord Himself will come to this world with His angels and judge the Antichrist and its followers who have tortured us. He will change us who have been born again by the water and the Spirit into perfection and lift us up to the air. Then, our

Lord Himself takes revenge on our behalf by judging them.

Although some of God's own children will be martyred on the last days, not all of them will be martyred. While some of us martyred, the rest will stay alive until they meet the coming Lord. Whether we are martyred or not, if we are truly wholesome children of God born again of water and the Spirit, and if we have the Holy Spirit in us, our Lord will change us in order to resurrect us and we will be taken up to Heaven.

Only those who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit will receive their resurrection and be taken up to Heaven. Hence, everyone who has received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit will go into the Kingdom of God together. Every righteous person shall come to live with the Lord for a thousand years in the Millennial Kingdom. However, He does not leave our weak bodies of the flesh we currently possess as they are. Our Lord will change our imperfect bodies into perfection so that we may live with Him for eternity.

Isaiah 35:5-6 talks about how the bodies of the believers of the gospel of the water and the Spirit will change and in which bodies they will praise God when the Kingdom of God is built on this land:

*"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,*
*And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.*
*Then the lame shall leap like a deer,*
*And the tongue of the dumb sing.*
*For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness,*
*And streams in the desert."*

That's right. The bodies of the flesh of those who were blind, deaf, and crippled in this world will be changed into perfection. Those who were limping will run like the deer. The mute will sing

with their tongues. Springs will burst forth in the wilderness, and streams will flow in the desert. Nothing in this world could be compared to the beauty of what is yet to come.

The Millennial Kingdom that our God will give us is such a good place. A country coffee shop with a great environment as well as nice natural scenery is what the Millennial Kingdom is like. The Niagara Falls, which boasts its enormity, is no comparison to the Millennial Kingdom. The Milky Way, which boasts its sparkling lights, is no comparison to the Millennial Kingdom. The aurora, which can only be seen in the North Pole, is no comparison to the Millennial Kingdom. This Millennial Kingdom is indeed a paradise in and of itself. Even in this world, if we built a coffee shop at the North Pole where auroras appear and share a cup of coffee with our lovers facing each other, there would not be a more beautiful coffee shop in this world. Then, the place where we can enjoy all the beauties of nature without any danger or harm must be a place of ecstasy, full of experiences that are out of this world. Could there be a coffee shop more beautiful than this?

A place where water springs are every where, a stream flows in the green pastures, every kind of flowers are in full bloom on the roadsides, and all evil disappears and only our loved ones are with us to serve Jesus Christ! The Bible keeps on singing,

*"A highway shall be there, and a road,*

*And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.*

*The unclean shall not pass over it,*

*But it shall be for others.*

*Whoever walks the road, although a fool,*

*Shall not go astray" (Isaiah 35:8).*

That is the Millennial Kingdom. The Millennial Kingdom is a place where we eat and

drink all the while we praise God, where we enjoy freedom to its full extent without any want, and where there are only joy and happiness and satisfaction. There is no other place that is more beautiful than the Millennial Kingdom. Our Lord said that He should surely build such a Kingdom of God in this world.

The Lord's Prayer is stating that those who have received the remission of sin should live piously in the Millennial Kingdom. The phrase, *"Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven,"* is stating that the paradise on earth will be given to the born again. Our Lord has most definitely promised to actually give it to us as such.

When I was just born again, I didn't realize actually the fact that the Lord will build His Kingdom on this earth. Still, our Lord gave such an inspiration and such a realization to my heart, which was so much in love with the Kingdom of God. When I read the Word on its literal face value, I thought that it would be thus because I was told that the Kingdom of God would come. Then, I came to truly believe in my heart that the Kingdom of God will really descend upon me, that Christ delivered us by the water and the blood in order to give everything to us, and that that is why Jesus received His baptism and paid the ransom for the price of life. God allowed such a heart inside of me.

Because our Lord loved us so very much, He came to this world and sacrificed His life in order to deliver us. There is nothing difficult about our Lord building the Kingdom of God in this world to give it to His loved ones, when He has already sacrificed Himself to the point of offering His own life in order to deliver us. It is impossible for us to make that kingdom descend on this world, but it is no sweat for our Lord. Our Lord does not regret giving such a kingdom to His

loved ones. Hence, we are grateful to our Lord.

When I am about to share a meal with my loving family or the other righteous people while looking over a beautiful natural scenery, I think to myself whether this is not what the paradise on earth would be like. That our hearts are drawn closer by sharing a couple of jokes, I think to myself that this is a small Kingdom of God and the very earthly paradise. And I actually believe this. The Kingdom of God will surely be realized in this world because our Lord has promised that He will build the Kingdom of Christ on this land and that He will most definitely keep His promise. Hence, I am so very grateful to our Lord and praise Him for all His grace.

## All of Nature Will Change When the Kingdom of God Is Established on This Land

The day the Kingdom of God is realized in this world, the entirety of nature will change. Just as it is said, *"The parched ground shall become a pool,*

*And the thirsty land springs of water;*

*In the habitation of jackals, where each lay,*

*There shall be grass with reeds and rushes" (Isaiah 35:7).* When the Kingdom of God is going to descend on this world, our Lord will also make all things new. At that time, the entirety of nature will change.

Dear fellow believers, evil and filthy animals as well as beasts that cause harm to humans in this world won't be found anywhere in the Kingdom of God. If this world contained only

pure people and no evil people and harmful bacteria, and if it was filled true cleanliness and freedom and perfection, then this world will be a miniature Heaven.

On this earth, a lot of our resources are being consumed to stockpile massive weaponries. In the case of our home country South Korea, a big chunk of the national GNP is spent for military expenses. If our country could shift all of its military spending from buying weapons to funding the welfare of its citizens, our country would become a small paradise on earth. And we wouldn't have to work as hard to live well. However, the reality demands that we spend a great deal of money on a national defense budget. A lot of it goes into replacing conventional and outdated weapons with the newest high-tech weapons. On the other hand, the world is being polluted rapidly along with the competitive economic development. The earth is no longer a place where we love to live. This is why God will change the entirety of nature on the day He comes to this world. He will reconstitute nature because the current state of nature is woeful.

When this world is being changed by the power of God, the righteous that believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit will live a differentiated life from the sinners. Isaiah 35:8-9 talks about this.

*"A highway shall be there, and a road,*
*And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.*
*The unclean shall not pass over it,*
*But it shall be for others.*
*Whoever walks the road, although a fool,*
*Shall not go astray. No lion shall be there,*
*Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it;*
*It shall not be found there.*
*But the redeemed shall walk there."*

And this Word is also recorded in the Book of Revelation.

What would constitute living a differentiated life? God will build His Kingdom on this world and put a highway in it. In some ways, we may think from our human perspective that it is not a bid deal to build a highway. We would be wrong to think that the Millennial Kingdom is not all that great since highways are nothing new to us as we now have four, eight, and twelve wide lanes. The highway in the Millennial Kingdom will be specifically built for the righteous, and only the righteous will have permission to use it. Since that highway is holy, those who are unclean won't be able to pass upon it. It will be exclusively for the holy people who have been redeemed. The Lord clearly said, *"The unclean shall not pass over it."* We the righteous who have been born again of the water and the Spirit live a differentiated life under the special love and care of our God.

We have many curiosities about the thousand-year kingdom that shall be built on top of this world. One of the greatest curiosities we have is whether there is going to be anyone else other than us living in that Millennial Kingdom. You may be curious whether only the righteous born again by the water and the Spirit are going to live in the Millennial Kingdom or whether there are going to be sinners among us as well. It is because of our curiosities that our Lord is telling us thusly. That is, this Word also answers whether we are going to be the only dwellers when God builds His Kingdom on this earth.

It is written, *"A highway shall be there, and a road,*

*And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.*

*The unclean shall not pass over it."*

The born again are those who will participate

in the first resurrection. Unlike the sinners, they have changed into their perfect and holy bodies. Thus, through the Word that only the righteous are able to pass over the highway, we are able to know that both the born again by the water and the Spirit and those who have not been born again are present there together. That is what our Lord has spoken about. I will say more about this a little later through the Word from Revelation.

There may be some of you who would like to ask, "What happens to this world? Then, does that mean that there will be people remaining in this world?" The proper answer to this question is that we do not know what God will do. Because we have to speak with the Word as our foundation, we can neither go to extremes nor be under its reality. Hence, we always have to speak with our Bibles open. Although I do not know in detail what God would do, one thing I know for sure is that the children of God born again of water and the Spirit will live a differentiated life in glory. Thus, when the Kingdom of God is built in this world, only the born again by the water and the Spirit who have been washed clean of all their sins will live in the protected and blessed area. This is true not only for the Millennial Kingdom but also for the eternal Kingdom of God. However, the above Word is not describing the eternal Kingdom but the Millennial Kingdom that will be built on this land as the realization of the Kingdom of God.

Isaiah chapter 51, verse 11 says,

*"So the ransomed of the LORD shall return,*
*And come to Zion with singing,*
*With everlasting joy on their heads.*
*They shall obtain joy and gladness;*
*Sorrow and sighing shall flee away."*

Those who have been ransomed by Jehovah are believers in the baptism Jesus Christ received and His blood of the Cross. Since our Lord has

bought us by the water and the blood as such, we have truly been delivered from all our sins completely. Only they will get to live in the Kingdom of God.

In the place where only the righteous will live, it is going to be filled with overflowing and everlasting joy and happiness. Sorrow and sighing shall completely flee away. God will build the Kingdom of God so that the born again can live in it. This is the very Word God will fulfill. Our Lord adopted us to be God's own children by blotting out all our sins completely by the water and the blood. And He promised that He would build the Millennial Kingdom where the children of God will live. That is also the reward for all the hardships we have suffered and will suffer for living as soldiers of Christ in this world. Our Lord promised to give us the Millennial Kingdom in the Old Testament and gave us the details of this endeavor through the New Testament.

The following Word is written in the Book of Revelation chapter 20 verses 4 to 6. *"And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."*

In the last days, there will be those who will be martyred by the ways of beheading. There are those who have been martyred for refusing the

mark of the Antichrist, which has the name of the Antichrist on it, and those who have refused idol worships. These people will be revived in the first resurrection and rule as kings alongside Christ for a thousand years, joining the great festivity.

God gave us the Millennial Kingdom. Those who will rule as kings alongside Christ for a thousand years are the ones who will be revived in the first resurrection. That is, they are those who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit. Only those that have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and lived their lives as soldiers of Christ will deny the Antichrist overcoming him by faith and joining in the first resurrection. And only those who have participated in the first resurrection will receive the reward of the Millennial Kingdom given by God. You and I who have been born again of water and the Spirit will surely partake in the first resurrection.

Then, who will join in the second resurrection? Whether they believe in Jesus or not, people who have sins in their hearts will participate in the second resurrection. Jesus has surely spoken thus. The born again of water and the Spirit will partake in the first resurrection and rule as kings alongside Christ. On the other hand, people who have lived with sins in their hearts by not believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit will partake in the second resurrection and be thrown into the everlasting fire.

Then, let's look at the Word to find out whether there are those who have not been born again living in the time of the Millennial Kingdom. Let's look at the Word of God from the Book of Revelation chapter 20 verses 7 to 10.

*"Now when the thousand years have expired,*

*Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."*

## This Word Is the Very Answer to the Question, "Will There Be Some People Who Have Not Been Born Again in the Millennial Kingdom?"

If we look at this Word, clearly there will be those who have not been born again in the Millennial Kingdom. It is just that those will not be people who are living in the present time. I think that those people would have come into existence during the Millennial Kingdom. One thing is clear that the Lord will separate them from us the born again during the Millennial Kingdom. As we see in the Word above, and in the passage, *"A highway shall be there, and a road…The unclean shall not pass over it,"* it is clear that those who have received the remission of sin by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit and those who have not shall be

disseminated in the Millennial Kingdom. The disseminated are those that have received the remission of sin will rule as kings in the Millennial Kingdom and those sinners who have not received the remission of sin will serve as the slaves of the righteous.

There are definitely people of the world apart from us who have been born again in the Millennial Kingdom. Hence, it is possible for us to rule as kings. As it is impossible to rule as kings without servants, we are able to rule as kings because there are sinners who would serve as our servants.

God will make sure that His will is realized on this land as it is in Heaven. God will definitely accomplish His Kingdom and give it to us the righteous. Hence, we have to know correctly about this and believe in it.

Then, will those who have not been born again truly be judged by fire? The answer to this question is clearly given in the Book of Revelation chapter 20 verses 13 to 15. That is, there is the judgment of fire.

*"The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."*

After the Millennial Kingdom passes by, all those who have not received the remission of sin are raised from the dead at the second resurrection to receive their judgment. They are put into the fire that does not extinguish for eternity. On the other hand, those who believe in the Truth and hold correct faith will enter the eternal Kingdom of God. God will first build His Kingdom on this land for a thousand years, and they will rule as kings along with the other

righteous people as well as Christ. That is, our Lord will live with us for a thousand years in the paradise on earth.

Then, did God allow a new Heaven and a new Earth to the believers in the gospel of the water and the Spirit? If we look at the Book of Revelation chapter 21 verses 1 to 4, God has definitely permitted this.

*"Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.'"*

Who will enter the Millennial Kingdom and the eternal Kingdom of God? The new Heaven and the new Earth as well as life in the eternal Kingdom have been allowed to the believers in Christ who have been born again of water and the Spirit. In the Book of Revelation chapter 21, verse 27, it is written that, *"only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life"* will enter the Millennial Kingdom and the Kingdom of Heaven.

Then, whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life? These are the people who have been born again by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit? Why? The gospel of the water and the Spirit had already been realized through God in the Trinity, and our salvation came by Jesus as the will of God had already been realized in Heaven. As such, the names of

those who have actually received the remission of sin are recorded in the Book of Life, and they are allowed to enter the Kingdom of God. Hence, those whose names have been written in the Book of Life are the born again. Only the names of those who have been born again by believing in the gospel of the water and the Spirit are written in God's Book of Life.

Yet, the names of the evildoers are written in the Book of Deeds or the Book of Judgment. They insist that God has unconditionally blotted out all their sins because of His love and deny Jesus, who has blotted out all our sins by the water, the blood, and the Holy Spirit. These people deny the works Jesus has carried out. The names of these people can never be written in the Book of Life. Those who oppose God and worship on their own terms by placing golden calves inside the shrines and calling the name of Jehovah; those who do not gratefully accept blessings, their salvation, God's love, and grace by faith but instead commit evil deeds in order to fulfill the greed of their own flesh; and those who oppose God, reject God's love, and stand against and hinder the church of God; they are neither holy nor are they the children of God. Their names will be written in the Book of Deeds.

I am telling you this because I felt that it would be appropriate to end with these words today. Our Lord has delivered us and receives His glory through us who have received salvation. Also, not only did our Lord deliver our hearts and souls but He will also clothe us with new bodies in the flesh. Thus, we will actually be resurrected in our new bodies to live in this world, which God has made anew.

Not only will we stay alive, but also we will live as kings with Christ in the Kingdom that Christ has built. The Kingdom of Christ will be built on this world, where we will live in glory

and splendor. In this present time which precedes that new world, if we the righteous who have been born again of water and the Spirit live by faith as soldiers of Christ and live for the salvation of the lost souls, our Lord will call us once He has finished building His Kingdom on this world. He will gather His own people who are born again of water and the Spirit and allow them to rule as kings during the Millennial Kingdom. He will open the Heaven Coffee Shop in this world and let us be glad for eternity in it. I am happy that God has given these blessings to no other than us.

Our Lord did not just deliver us. He has actually delivered us and given us rewards that are proper to our new status. In another word, we should not be satisfied by the mere fact that we have received our salvation and no longer are headed toward hell. To those who have actually been saved from sin, there are many more prizes and rewards that await them.

There are so many people in this world that try to entice us with their trickery, many evil tricks, and preposterous doctrines. In such context, however, there are people who give glory to God by their faith of purely accepting and believing in the Word of God. God gives them not only salvation but also material rewards from then on. God will give us abundant blessings. We believe in this.

Just as the brother from Daegu said during his testimonies, this Bible Camp has been pleasant both in body and spirit. The food was great. My mood was uplifted by the observation of nature's green scenery. I was glad to meet as many brothers and sisters as well as my coworkers in God. It was really touching to hear the testimonies of salvation of the new brothers and sisters who have passed through the gospel class and received the remission of sin. In one word,

we had a great time. Dear fellow believers, would you not agree? Of course, you do. We were truly happy. I watched many fancy dance moves and learned a few of them. Although I can't say that I recovered my old dance form, I was happy nonetheless. And I will be happy forever. I am happy for eternity because of Christ.

We will live in the beautiful coffee shop of God for eternity in happiness. It does not end with the fact that we have received the remission of sin, but if we believe in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, the reward of the eternal Kingdom of Heaven awaits us. Great blessings that are guaranteed to us await us. Since our Lord is trustworthy, He keeps every promise He has made. He will definitely deliver on His promises for all the blessings, grace, glory, honor, and abundant happiness to those who accept His love and His Truth of salvation. That is, He will cover us with such love for the single reason that we have accepted the love God has given us. How great our God is!

The worldly Christians sing just by lips, "♫God is so good. God is so good. God is so good. ♪He's so good to me. ♫" They praise only with their lips without truly knowing how holy and good that God really is, how kindhearted God is, and how gentle God is as the Shepherd. Still, God has allowed us who have received the remission of sin by our faith in the gospel to experience what a good Lord He is by giving us, His created people, the gospel of the water and the Spirit.

I do not look at this world only from a pessimistic point of view. If we listen to the news, it is filled with dark and terrifying stories that the world appears to be a gloomy place. However, our Lord has given us the hope for eternal happiness, the Millennial Kingdom as

well as the eternal Kingdom, that is, Heaven. By our faith, we can no longer just look at the world as a gloomy place.

Even in this world, there are beautiful places in nature as well as fashionable locations. These places are previews to the eternal Kingdom of Heaven. That is, it is a preview to that kingdom God will give to you and me. Our Lord has prepared that kingdom, which He will give to not anyone else but to us the servants of God, the soldiers of Christ, and the people of God. "Do not worry in your hearts. I will prepare a place I will give to you and, then, return to you." Our Lord promised us thusly.

Our Lord will build the Kingdom of Christ on this world. Once we finish this spiritual war of saving lost souls, our Lord will come to this world and build the Kingdom of God. He will allow us to live happily in the coffee shop of the earthly paradise for a thousand years. We will party with our loved ones in the wide-open fields of green pasture and flowery scents. At a soccer field which causes no injury, our pastors' wives, brothers, and sisters will all play soccer together. My short legs will grow long, and I will become able to play soccer like Bekham.

Also, crystal clear rivers of water of life will flow. In it, golden fish will chat as they swim, and we will catch them in abundance by throwing a casting net. I would like to see all of you there by the crystal river that is simultaneously flows leisurely and more powerfully than the Mississippi River.

Dear fellow believers, have you ever seen the fantastic beauty of this world? You can hope for an even more beautiful kingdom, which our Lord will give us. Although we have not been to the Kingdom of God to experience its beauty and perfection, we can have that place through our hopes by believing in the Word of God.

## We Will Live in the Millennial Kingdom in the Coming Days

We will live in that place once we have finished the spiritual war in this world as soldiers of Christ. Once we have built the Kingdom of God in each country, God will decide that there is no more hope in this world, that there is no one left who will receive the remission of sin and that everyone who has not received the remission of sin deserves their due judgments. Once so decided, our Lord will come. We give thanks to our Lord for building the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Christ in this world. Dear fellow believers, are you grateful? Yes, you are. Dear fellow believers, do you believe in this? I am sure you do.

This week, the pastors' wives really did a lot of work for us. I urge some sisters who are good in finger pressure massage to go to them and give them a neck rub. Since no one responded to this, I guess that we don't have anyone talented in finger pressure massage. Our muscles tighten up when we are so tired. If you receive finger pressure massage, those muscles are loosened quite a bit.

Some time ago, I received a finger pressure massage from a refugee from a coworker nicknamed "North Korean boy." After receiving his massage, tightness of my muscles has loosened quite a lot. Pastor Chung says that I have become much healthier. The truth is that I am very healthy. Although my belly looks like that of a pregnant woman, I have lost some meat on my belly recently. I enjoy my food and have no problem digesting it.

The season has turned, and now we are in autumn. Mountain winds blow and dry the sweat from our faces to make us forget about the heat of summer. A week of brothers and sisters and

servants of God worshiping together in one place, having fellowship in the gospel of the water and the Spirit, buying delicious snacks from the convenient store, stealing other people's snacks without them knowing, enjoying a bad habit of poking fun at others, and enjoying the awesome natural scenery as well as breathing in the cool air has already passed. It is truly beautiful that I cannot help but give thanks to Christ.

Once I have lived out my life as a soldier of Christ and finish my work, I will go before God with gladness. Our Lord might come back to this world before then. Our Lord will come to renew this land and to build the Millennial Kingdom so that He can live with us. Hence, we should not be so eager to go before God yet.

If anyone dies before our Lord comes, he is a traitor. How hard is it for each of us since all of us have our roles in serving the gospel? As every part of a well-oiled machine works in synchronization, not even one of us dare be slacking if the gospel is to be spread throughout the world. A single hole will destroy our entire works. If you die before others instead of helping others and uniting with others when they are tired from doing their best in their parts, those who remain behind will have that much more work to do. Hence, is he not a traitor for causing significant interference to the spread of the gospel? Let us not forget that we should go into the Kingdom of God by watching that kingdom expand to the end. I hope that we can remain together till the end.

Before we go to the Lord, let us remember what great blessings we have received from God and give glory to God with everything we have. Until the day our Lord calls one of us or one of us has to go before God, I hope that we can remain together for as long as we can, receiving

the blessings from God and thanking God, sharing this gospel as soldiers of Christ, and making it possible for other people receive the same happiness and blessings as we have received.

In the last days, if the Antichrist appears before us and tries to kill us, the Holy Spirit will urge us to say, "Do not waste any more time and kill me. I can no longer bear to face your filthy countenance. Kill me at once." Would not the Antichrist kill us in a single swing of the sword? "Have a great life while you can. In a short while, all of your glory will end, and everlasting fear and judgment will surround you. Meet your fate with your eyes wide open. You have never feared those with words of vengeance. This time around you will feel the chill down to your bones and be afraid of my words of vengeance. We will wait and see. Before long, our Lord will come. He will chomp you down and throw you into the everlasting imprisonment, into the abyss of fire." We will boldly accept martyrdom, saying our words of faith to the Antichrist as such.

If we wait just for a little while, our Lord will come. Our Lord will come to us before long. He will build the Kingdom of Christ by changing this ruined world and making everything new. At that time, we would be separated from those sinners who dwell on the land by invisible lines and walls and live a differentiated life. Life then would be great beyond our imagination. I know and believe that God will give us blessings and happiness, which we have never experienced before, and thank God for it.

I admonish those of you who have received the remission of sin at this time. Receiving the remission of sin is not the end of it. Since the Church is the Kingdom of God now in this world, you should have fellowship with the other brothers and sisters inside the Church, serve the

gospel, and should be led well by the leaders of the Church. The leaders of the Church are your fathers? Do you believe that they are your spiritual fathers? Or do you say, "How could these young persons be my fathers? I am old enough to be their father. How can they be my fathers then"? You should not judge by your standards of the flesh but you need spiritual eyes to discern the spiritual maturity of your leaders. Whether they are young or old, the servants of God are your fathers? It is the servants of God whom you should trust, follow, and be led by. Do you comprehend?

I thank you who have worked with me for the Kingdom of God. And I give thanks to God for allowing us to serve the gospel together. I have to once again give thanks to God because I am overjoyed by the fact that I am with all the saints in our Church. I give thanks to our Lord and believe that we will live by faith until the day our Lord comes back and that we will continue to live in the Millennial Kingdom, which our Lord will give us.

I praise our Lord forever for delivering us from all our sins and adopting us as the children of God.

Hallelujah! ✉

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# How to Read

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# PAGE BY PAGE

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